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Champion
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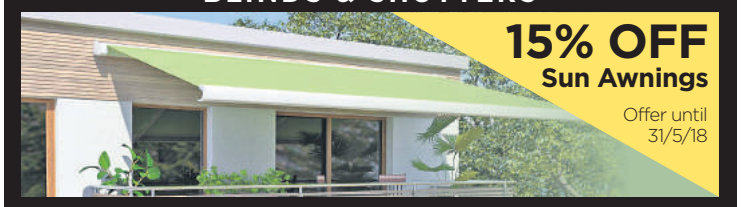

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Nursery group signs up to health pledge

Display recalls Linnets' finest hour

MORE MISERY FOR RAIL PASSENGERS

Report by **Henry James**

Delays and cancellations following introduction of new timetables on West Lancashire Line

NEW rail timetables introduced this week have brought misery for passengers throughout the region including those using the West Lancashire Line from Southport to Manchester.

For many, the introduction of the new schedules by Northern Rail resulted in delays and in some cases no trains at all - coupled with many services to Manchester Piccadilly and Manchester Airport from Southport being completely wiped off the new timetables.

There is now a drastically reduced direct service between Southport and Manchester Piccadilly, and the direct link to Manchester Airport has ended much to the dismay of business people in the resort who had hoped that a visit to the town by Transport Secretary Chris Grayling in Janurary would result in the links being saved.

And it seems there is no end in sight to the travel gloom with yet more industrial action due to take place on Northern services tomorrow (Thursday) and on Saturday.

The continuing dispute over the use of guards on trains will affect all Northern services, with just a reduced timetable in place. Some stations may have no Northern services, while replacement bus services will be used on others.

The travel chaos led to passengers venting their anger on social media. Commuter Colin Rowlands wrote: "Typical quality start to the new Northern Rail timetable, they couldn't even manage to get the first train out of Southport running on time and then added to the delays by having to manually unlock each door one by one. #NorthernFail"

A Northern train - a rare sight for some passengers this week after a raft of cancellations

While Craig Dawson added: "Good start to Northern Rail new (Southport/Manchester) timetable. 1st train 20 minutes late. 2nd train cancelled."

Eric Woodcock from the Southport Rail Transport Forum told the Champion: "Generally speaking people are pretty fed up with the timetable changes.

"Northern have not published the new timetables in time for the changes and they won't be available until June 1. Northern staff are telling people, who want to find out about the new timetables, to search on their mobiles and computers. But not all commuters have these devices to hand.

"They are also promoting days out to places like Chester on their sites. They should be making sure their systems run smoothly before they clutter up their systems with useless information like this.

"It was found that 60% of passengers in our area wanted a direct service from Southport to Manchester Piccadilly and 40% wanted a direct service to Victoria, so why do the changes hamper the majority of commuters' wishes.

"Good links to Manchester are fundamental to the future of our town and other towns on the line."

Strangely, the trains that did take passengers to Piccadilly and Manchester Airport will now take you to... Blackburn!

The Rail Transport Forum also posted on social media: "Final tally for the day (Monday, May 21):

Continued inside

Lee McNicholas with his BAFTA

Former Ormskirk Grammar pupil wins BAFTA

A FORMER Ormskirk Grammar School pupil is celebrating after winning a coveted BAFTA award.

Lee McNicholas, who attended Hillside Primary in Skelmersdale before going on to the grammar school, received the honour - the British equivalent of the Oscars - for his work as executive producer on Britain's Got Talent at the recent ceremony in London.

The BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) awards are presented annually by the academy to honour the best British and international contributions to film and television.

As a young man, Lee was very active on the local arts scene and still returns to the town on a regular basis to visit family and friends.

He then went on to become a researcher on How Clean is Your House? working with Aggie McKenzie and Kim Woodburn.

And that proved to be a stepping stone as he

Continued inside

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New Mayor takes over chains of office

Report by **Henry James**

The new Mayor of West Lancashire Councillor Noel Delaney and new Mayoress Ann Stubbert. Picture by the Artz Centre.

COUNCILLOR Noel Delaney has taken over the role of Mayor of West Lancashire.

During his year in office, as well as representing the borough at civic events, he will be aiming to raise money for his chosen charities, Twinkle House in Skelmersdale and the scouts and guides groups at St Anne's RC Church in Ormskirk.

Councillor Delaney's Mayoress will be Mrs Ann Stubbert and his chaplain will be Father Godric Timney from St Anne's RC Church.

Taking up the borough's top civic role is the culmimnaton of a long 'apprenticeship' for Cllr Delaney who has previously served as Deputy Mayor's consort, Mayor's consort and for the last 12 months Deputy Mayor!

Councillor Delaney said: "Having left school without any formal qualifications I feel very proud and humble to be Mayor of West Lancashire. I want to promote West Lancashire as it is a great place to live and work.

"I hadn't planned to be Mayor when I started being Deputy Mayor's Consort, but when I was nominated to be Deputy Mayor I felt I had covered a lot of duties and I 'knew the ropes', so now I am really looking forward to being Mayor.

"There have already been a lot of highlights for me in civic roles and I even got to meet Prince Harry when he came to Cast North West in Newburgh. I have met a lot of great people from voluntary organisations and I am looking forward to meeting more."

While many people look to put their feet up when they retire, Councillor Delaney wanted to serve the community by becoming a Councillor, representing Scott Ward since 2010. During his time with the Council he has served as Chairman of the Licensing and Gambling Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Licensing and Appeals Committee.

In his spare time Councillor Delaney is a keen horse racing fan and actually part owns two racehorses, one called Mulligatawny and another called Elusive Heights.

The new Deputy Mayor is Councillor Gaynar Owen from Up Holland Ward, who has been on the council since 2012 and is currently Chairman of the Licensing and Appeals Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Licensing and Gambling Committee.

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BAFTA accolade for former Ormskirk Grammar pupil

From Page 1

later landed a role as an executive producer with Simon Cowell's Syco Entertainment company and involvement with hit shows like *The X Factor* and *Britain's Got Talent*, which won a BAFTA in the entertainment programme category at the awards at the Royal Festival Hall in London.

Lee said: "It was an amazing feeling to win this award. I've worked in television for almost 20 years and to be recognized by BAFTA really means a lot.

"I am very proud to work on *Britain's Got Talent*. It's a really fun show and I'm proud that it's a programme that the whole family can enjoy.

"As a child growing up, I actually went to school in Ormskirk (Ormskirk Grammar at the time) and it had a huge influence on me.

"I was always interested in the performing arts, I studied A level theatre studies and had a really inspiring drama teacher, Mrs Little, who taught me from a very early age how to put on a show, which is basically what I do now in my job on BGT.

"One place that had a huge influence on me in Skelmersdale was the local library. I spent most evenings and weekends there studying which enabled me to get the exam results I needed to go on to study at university and end up with a job that I really enjoy."

Jane's display recalls Linnets' finest hour

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

FLORIST Jane Marsh has this week been celebrating the 15th anniversary of what many people might say is the greatest day in Burscough's sporting history - Sunday, May 18, 2003.

That was the day when, under the management of Shaun Teale, the Linnets beat Tamworth 2-1 at Villa Park to bring the FA Trophy back to the village.

The game was live on Sky Sports and the whole of Burscough and most of West Lancashire were either in Birmingham or glued to the TV as Gary Martindale scored twice to send one side of the famous Aston Villa ground green.

The homecoming on the night was a scene Burscough will probably never see again.

Paraded

When the team arrived home at around 10pm, 5,000 people out of a population of 8,500 were in the tiny Victoria Park ground or surrounding it.

It took the coach more than half-an-hour to navigate the length of Mart Lane from Liverpool Road to the ground, with people stood on walls and roofs to get a good view before the trophy was paraded around the pitch and the party went on until daylight.

Jane Marsh and her floral window display celebrating the 15th anniversary of Burscough FC winning the FA Trophy.

Jane, who runs The Little Flower Shop in Liverpool Road, remembers the day well and felt it just had to be celebrated again 15 years later.

"I went to Villa Park myself. My hands were still sore from all the bows I made for people around Burscough in the week leading up to the game.

"But it was only a small part of the whole atmosphere around the place, every shop was decorated and there were ribbons and colours everywhere.

"Even the local funeral directors had a sign in the window saying 'Knock them dead Burscough'!

"It seems to have been forgotten about and knowing the 15th anniversary was coming up I planned my window and customers and supporters of the club were very happy to lend me memorabilia for the display.

"People have been popping into the shop all week to not only look at the memorabilia but to reminisce about the day and almost everybody can remember where they were or what they did on the day Burscough won the FA Trophy.

It has been lovely to think back."

Jane is planning to take the display down today (Wednesday, May 23) so get your skates on if you want to have a look!

Lamb found dead in field after youths spotted chasing sheep

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A LAMB was found dead in a field next to Hesketh Bank Cricket Club after a group of youths were chased off for scaring sheep.

Landowner Mark O'Hanlon, who leases the field to the sheep's owner, says that when he arrived at the cricket club on Friday evening (May 18), he saw a group of about 20 youths with five of them in his field chasing the sheep which had gathered together in a huddle out of fear.

After being challenged the youths - believed to be between 14 and 17 - made off. Later the lamb was found dead.

It is claimed the youths had congregated on the cricket pitch and five of them crossed a ditch and climbed over an electric fence to get at the sheep.

Mr O'Hanlon said: "People don't understand how easy it is for sheep to die after being frightened and they might not have known that,

"There were about 20 kids roaming around.. Their parents don't know where they are and five of them are in the field, wreaking havoc. Those sheep were absolutely petrified and one ended up dead somehow."

Disgusted

Mr O'Hanon said that in the past youths had tried to set fire to bales of hay in his field amd he added the sheep farmer has now taken the animals away for their own protection and he doesn't know if they will return.

"It would be easier to put the fields up for housing. It can hardly be used for anything now."

Ian Cropper, clerk to Hesketh Bank Parish Council said that CCTV covering the village's Centenary Sports Ground - comprising a football club, cricket club and bowling club - was being studied.

He said the parish council would be discussing the matter when they next meetin June. "We are quite disgusted with it and it's our intention to discuss the issues of misbehaving youths at our next council meeting."

A spokesperson for Lancashire Police said there had been no arrests in connection with the incident but confirmed: "We were called shortly after 9pm to reports of sheep worrying at Hesketh Bowling Club. It was reported there were five people chasing sheep.

"It was later reported a lamb had been found dead. We can't confirm whether this was as a result of the sheep worrying earlier."

Got a story? Ring the Champion News Desk on 01704 392400 or email us at editorial@champnews.com

County care homes support Dementia Action Week

EVENTS to support Dementia Action Week are being held at Lancashire County Council's care homes and day centres.

Dementia Action Week (May 21 to 28) is a national campaign which encourages communities to do something to improve the lives of people living with dementia.

A shopping centre trip at Beacon View in Skelmersdale is one of the activities planned.

Other events at venues throughout the county include, a Dementia Café, a tea party and ice-cream social, a nursery school visit, a crafts afternoon, flower arranging and singing.

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Nine-year-old Safaa Masters cuts the ribbon to get the 10th Rainbow Ramble under way. More than 250 took part in this year's event including an array of colourful, fancy dress-themed participants

Rainbow Ramble set to raise £20,000-plus

MORE than 250 runners, walkers and families with pushchairs and pets joined the 10th annual Rainbow House Ramble.

And officials of the Mawdesley-based charity, which supports children and young people with neurological and physical conditions and relies entirely on donations, grants and fundraising activities, are hoping that the final total raised by this year's event will be in excess of £20,000.

Participants in the ramble could choose between five-mile and 11-mile routes and within minutes of the 'off' the Lancashire countryside was full of people in fancy dress with a wide range of themes, including jesters and smurfs!

The colour purple was also prominently on display. This was worn to raise awareness of Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS).

Two youngsters diagnosed with this very rare genetic disorder attend Rainbow House and took part with their families.

The starting ribbon was cut by nine-year-old Safaa Masters, who also attends Rainbow House after cancer of the spine left her with opsoclonus myoclonus syndrome, another rare condition that affects physical and general development.

Specialised 'conductive' education at the centre has helped her learn to walk independently.

Live music was provided by duo Two Notes as everyone warmed up before the start and DJ Jonathan Knowles, who has cerebral palsy and has been attending conductive education for 10 years, helped to keep the fun atmosphere going.

Chief executive of Rainbow House, Ben Blackman, said: "The ramble is one of the highlights of the year and we can't thank everyone enough for taking part - with special thanks to our supporters, Goldseal, Trust Inns and Morrow Brothers Ltd.

"We will not know the full amount raised until all the sponsorship comes in but it is hoped it will be more than £20,000."

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Amazing response to Lifesavers campaign

MORE than 2,500 people have been trained in how to perform CPR and use a defibrillator - thanks to the Lancashire Lifesavers campaign.

Training sessions were held by the North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) at venues across the county to give people vital first aid skills in the event of someone having a cardiac arrest.

The campaign was inspired by former County Councillor Tony Jones, whose life was saved when he collapsed during a debate at County Hall in Preston last September.

He was saved by Skelmersdale East County Councillor John Fillis, a trained nurse, BBC Radio Lancashire's political reporter, Mike Stevens and county council facilities manager, Matt Dean.

Following the success of the sessions people are now being encouraged to nominate places where defibrillators could be installed around the county after the council announced it will invest £30,000 in the lifesaving equipment.

Christopher Hyde, Community Resuscitation Manager at NWAS, said: "It has been a brilliant campaign and we were really pleased that so many people signed up to these sessions.

Councillors Azhar Ali and Geoff Driver who took part in a lifesaving training session organised by the North West Ambulance Service

"Hopefully everyone who has taken part will now have the confidence to act should someone suffer from a cardiac arrest near them.

"Around 30,000 cardiac arrests happen out of hospital in the UK every year. If people receive CPR quickly from someone who is trained to use a defibrillator, they have a much better chance of surviving and recovering."

The leader of the county council, Councillor Geoof Driver, undertook one of the training sessions at County Hall alongside Labour group leader, Azhar Ali.

Cllr. Driver said: "The session was very informative and worthwhile. Training more than 2,500 over the past month is a real achievement and my thanks go to NWAS.

"Early CPR and defibrillation gives patients in a cardiac arrest the best possible chance, and that's why it is also important that community access defibrillators are available in as many places as possible.

"I'd encourage everyone to send in their suggestions for suitable locations in the county for these devices."

Lancashire Lifesavers is a joint campaign with BBC Radio Lancashire, the North West Ambulance Service and Lancashire County Council.

Anyone wishing to suggest a location for a defibrillator should email lancslifesavers@bbc.co.uk by Thursday, May 31, saying why their community needs one.

The location must be within the county council area and the sites will be decided on merit by the council, along with the North West Ambulance Service and BBC Radio Lancashire.

Nurse recruitment open day

A RECRUITMENT day for nurses interested in working at Southport and Ormskirk hospitals is being held on Tuesday, May 29.

The event will run from 3.30 to 7pm in the Clinical Education Centre at Southport Hospital. Light refreshments will be available for all those attending.

Dozens of nurses have joined the Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust after attending previous events and oganisers say they are a great opportunity to chat informally to senior nurses about what the trust can offer. For those who are interested, interviews and potential offers of employment will be available on the day.

Online applications are encouraged but there is no need to register to attend. The trust has nursing vacancies in both urgent and planned care roles. To view all current roles go to jobs.southportandormskirk.nhs.uk.

For further information contact Carol Fowler on 01704 704908.

Misery on the railways as delays and cancellations mark start of new timetables

From Page 1

10 of 31 trains arriving into Southport from Wigan (and corresponding outbound services) cancelled. Four more did not run full route in. Ten were late (+ 5 mins) and four more very late. Of the 14 Leeds services, three arrived on time. So much for improved reliability."

A spokesman for Northern said: "It has been a difficult morning (Monday) for some of our customers and we are very sorry for the delays and cancellations they have experienced.

"We will continue to do everything we can to ensure we minimise any service disruption and keep customers informed as quickly as we can through our website and social media. We are working hard to address the issues we faced this morning and are developing plans to help our customers get where they need to be."

"The May 2018 timetable change, which went live today (Monday) for commuters, has seen around 90% of our services change and an extra 1,300 train services a week introduced across our network, the biggest change to local rail for many years. This remains a significant operational challenge and we continue to expect some localised service disruption, which could happen at very short-notice

"Northern customers are urged to check their train times before they travel at National Rail Enquiries or on their website, and on twitter at @northernassist, where we will post notification of known disruption as soon as we can."

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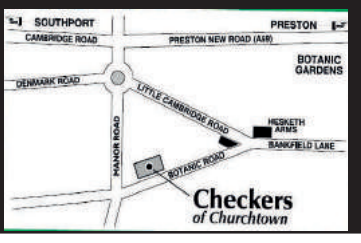

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Young and old join in Royal Wedding Day celebrations

A TASTE of Royal Wedding fever came to West Lancashire as young and old celebrated the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.

Ormskirk West End Primary School was decorated with red, white and blue bunting and pictures of the happy couple.

The school also organised a mock wedding ceremony of their own, officiated by a real minister, Reverend Stuart Haynes, with pupils playing the parts of Harry and Meghan.

Bickerstaffe CE Primary also held a full-scale pretend wedding at the village's Holy Trinity Church, officiated by Reverend Andrew Housley.

And the children were also keen to use the occasion to raise funds for the survivors of the Manchester Arena attack.

At Burscough Village Primary School the governors were invited to join pupils for a wedding lunch with tables decorated with Union Jack flags.

Meanwhile, some of the borough's older folk also did their bit to mark the wedding.

Residents at Eller Brook Sheltered Housing Scheme in Ormskirk enjoyed a buffet and singer.

And joining the celebrations at Springfield Court in Aughton was the new Mayoress of West Lancs, Mrs Ann Stubbert.

Above: Bickertaffe CE Primary staged their own mock wedding to mark the big day.

Right: Residents and staff from Eller Brook House toast the happy couple.

The Mayor, Councillor Noel Delaney, joins the party at Ormskirk West End Primary School to celebrate the Royal Wedding.

Patriotic pupils from Burscough Village Primary School celebrated the Royal Wedding with a special lunchtime party.

The new Mayoress of West Lancs, Mrs Ann Stubbert, joined residents at Springfield Court and their families to celebrate the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.

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Digital post-mortem service launched

New procedure will be less invasive and could help meet national need for heart valves

A NEW digital post-mortem service has started in Lancashire, which could help to meet a need for heart valves in England and Wales.

The Digital Autopsy Service, based at Royal Preston Hospital, reduces the need for a traditional post-mortem performed by a pathologist, who has to open the body and remove the organs to carry out the examination.

By using a digital autopsy, heart valves could be removed from registered organ donors or with agreement from families, and donated to people who need them. Traditional post-mortems make this impossible due to the process involved.

This less-invasive process may also help to reduce the time required to establish a cause of death.

The Coroner for Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen, Lancashire County Council and the Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust are working with iGene London Ltd. to deliver the new service, which will be free at the point of delivery for bereaved families, and is the first of its kind in the North West.

Senior coroner, Dr James Adeley, said: "This is a significant advance in establishing accurate causes of death without the need for the distress of the traditional post-mortem for families who are already grieving.

Karen Partington, chief executive of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals, officially opens the new service watched by representatives of the partner organisations behind it.

"Once the service is fully operational, it could also help to meet the national need for heart valves, which would benefit recipients."

National data shows that between May 2017 and January 2018, 347 hearts were donated. To meet clinical demand over this period, 540 were required.

Developments in CT scanning and research have allowed a digital post-mortem to be performed without the need for the traditional invasive procedure - unless further investigation is required to clarify the cause of death. This preserves the dignity of the deceased person and is of particular importance for deaths where the deceased person is of certain faiths.

However some deaths are not suitable for a digital autopsy and need will remain for traditional post-mortems in some cases.

Karen Partington, chief executive at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, said: "This revolutionary approach to providing post-mortem examinations is far less invasive which means we are able to treat the deceased with more dignity and more quickly than with the current arrangements."

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New speed camera vans to patrol roads

Report by **Henry James**

A NEW fleet of 'road safety enforcement vans' are being rolled out across Lancashire this week.

Police say the high-visibility vehicles, operated by Lancashire Constabulary, will play a key role in hopefully reducing road traffic collisions and injuries on the county's roads.

Operatives will also be given body cameras and radios following a rise in abuse from motorists.

Eight vehicles will monitor accident routes and roads identified by members of the public to detect speeding, seat belt offences, mobile phone use and drivers not fully in control of their vehicles.

Superintendent Julian Platt said: "These vans have been liveried to provide a highly visible presence.

"We want drivers to see them and know we are there.

"The technicians are tasked to enforce in areas that will have the maximum impact on reducing road traffic collisions.

"We plan the technicians' shifts around the times when we see most collisions to make sure the enforcement vehicles have the maximum effect.

"By being present we hope to improve driver behaviour to make Lancashire's roads safer for everyone who uses them."

One of the new road safety enforcement vans

The road safety enforcement technicians are Lancashire Constabulary staff.

Due to a significant increase in abusive and offensive behaviour they are equipped with body worn cameras and radios to be used in emergencies.

The new enforcement vehicles are also equipped with four CCTV cameras, which cover 360 degrees surrounding the van for the technicians' safety.

Supt Platt added: "The majority of drivers are considerate and abide by the rules of the road.

"However, unfortunately, there is a minority who flout the rules by driving too fast or using mobile phones at the wheel, putting everyone at risk.

"The technicians perform an important role of deterring driving which puts road users at risk and steps will be taken to investigate and prosecute anyone who is captured displaying abusive behaviour towards the technicians or deliberately obstructing them as this is clearly unacceptable."

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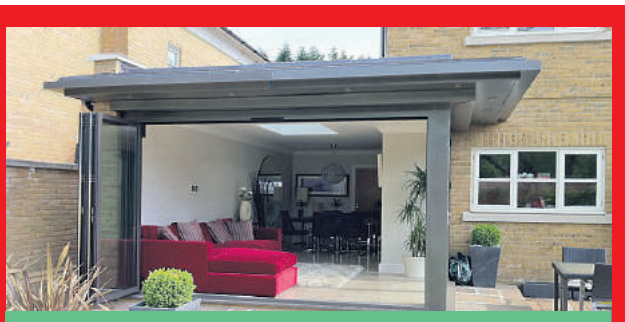
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Martin Mere news

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Get nose to beak with ducklings this May Half Term at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre

This May half term sees the return of the award winning egg-to-duckling experience at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre.

The event, from Saturday 26 May to Sunday 3 June, allows visitors to have this unique opportunity to discover how ducklings develop inside an egg, hatch out of the shell and develop in the duckling nursery.

Centre Manager Nick Brooks said: "May half term offers some amazing experiences that are unique to Martin Mere. Children and adults of all ages can take part in fascinating egg candling workshops (where a light is used to look inside an egg), see eggs hatching and meet fluffy ducklings in the nursery. Its an award winning experience and a great day out for the whole family."

The event runs from 11am to 4pm, with the duckling nursery open between 11.30am and 3.30pm. Downy Duckling activities are included in the centre admission price; tickets to the egg candling workshop will be issued from the Visitor Services team as places are limited.

Steve Nasir, Grounds Manager, said "Already this year we have had cape barren, black swan cygnets and nene goslings hatch as well as an abundance of mallard and moorhen ducklings and chicks. We are hopeful for a really good breeding season this year."

Martin Mere is open every day (except Christmas Day) from 9.30am to 6pm during summer months (and until 4.30pm during the winter) and parking is free of charge. Situated off the A59, it is signposted from the M61, M58 and M6. The Centre is also accessible via the Southport to Manchester and the Liverpool to Preston line by train from Burscough Rail Stations. Visit the web site http://www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere/ to find out what's on all year round at Martin Mere and the other eight WWT Wetland Centres.

Visit the web site www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere to find out what's on the reserve at the moment as well as all the upcoming events

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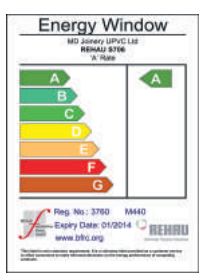

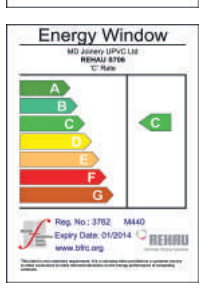

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Nursery group signs up to staff mental health welfare pledge

A NURSERY group based in West Lancashire is the first in the North West to sign the Time to Change Employer Pledge, a commitment to supporting staff experiencing mental health issues.

Portico Nursery Group is made up of eight private nurseries situated across West Lancs, Knowsley, and St Helens, with its business office based in Ormskirk.

It was set up 14 years ago by directors, brother and sister Craig Jackson and Nicole Politis from Ormskirk.

Funded by the Government, the Lottery and Comic Relief, and led by charities Mind and Rethink Mental Illness, Time to Change is a national movement seeking to end the stigma of mental illness and challenge discrimination.

The movement says that one in four British workers are affected by conditions like anxiety, depression and stress every year and mental ill-health is the leading cause of sickness absence in the UK, costing an average of £1,035 per employee per year.

Also, 95% of employees calling in sick with stress gave a different reason.

The Time to Change Employer Pledge marks a company's commitment to normalising conversation about mental health in the workplace. It was signed by the directors and managers from the Portico nurseries, including Portico Kindergarten, situated in the grounds of Town Green Primary School, Aughton, and those attached to West End Primary School, Ormskirk, and at St John's Children's Centre in Skelmersdale.

Leaders at the Portico Nursery Group sign the Time to Change Pledge.

Portico Nursery Group's area manager, Sarah Fillingham, said: "We already have procedures in place to ensure our team has the best possible training to help them carry out their roles and progress in their early years career. Signing the pledge means that we are enhancing our workplace culture by highlighting that we all have a part to play.

"I came across the Time to Change website and knew this would be a great opportunity to build on what we are already doing and help to ensure we fulfil our duty of care to staff."

Director, Nicole Politis, added: "We hope that signing this pledge shows the commitment we have to our employees' wellbeing. We are very excited to see how this develops."

To date, around 80 organisations in the North West have signed the pledge, including Edge Hill University Students Union and Everton Football Club. Portico Nursery Group is the first Early Years setting in the region to commit to the pledge and only the second in the country.

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Call for 'fair play' for those residents still using blue boxes for recycling

A LONG-serving West Lancs borough councillor has called for the authority to "act justly" towards residents who use the blue box to recycle plastics, glass and cans, rather than charge them for a change of the council's making.

Councillor Adrian Owens, the Our West Lancashire representative for Derby ward, said: "We have been contacted by several residents who currently use the blue box to recycle glass, plastics and cans and who are telling us that the council is wanting them to change to a blue bin, and worse still, to have to pay for the bin as well.

"When the blue bin was introduced, many residents, especially in smaller households or with limited space, chose and were given the option to remain with the blue box. Now the council is forcing the switch to a blue bin it is unjust to demand £25.

"Many will understandably refuse to pay this charge, which is unfair as it is the council which is enforcing the change.

"What this means is that more glass, plastic and cans will end up in the general waste while recycling will reduce in these households at a time when we should be boosting recycling of plastics and other items."

One of the residents who has complained to Our West Lancashire, Wendy Hudson of Parbold, said: "As I live alone and have very little recycling, I opted to keep my blue box. This, it seems, will no longer be emptied and I would have to purchase a blue wheelie bin for £25 if I want to keep on recycling.

"As this was not made clear at the time and probably hadn't even been considered, I think that the boxes should be replaced free of charge. After all, they would have been freely supplied had people in my position asked to receive one at the time, therefore this is merely a deferment of delivery."

Report by **Henry James**

Councillor Adrian Owens says it's 'unfair' to ask residents who chose to keep the blue box to now pay to switch to a blue bin

'Unfair'

Cllr. Owens said that this latest change was being 'slipped in' at the same time as the change with green and brown bins and it had not been included in officer briefings to councillors before the decision to change was made at February's council meeting.

He added that he had now written to those responsible at the council over the matter.

"Residents are complaining to us that they have written to the council two or three weeks ago about their concerns and have received no reply.

"It's time for the council to say that if the new system requires a household to change from a blue box to a blue bin then the council will provide that bin free of charge. Anything else would be grossly unfair."

A spokesman for the council said: "The policy approved by council in early 2013 was to introduce blue bins to replace blue boxes, at an investment of £360,000. This was later revised to introduce a charge of £23 for replacement containers and this has been the approach ever since.

"As blue boxes have become redundant, residents have purchased blue bins. Recently, the charge for containers has been increased to £25.

"When blue bins were introduced residents were encouraged to switch from a box to a bin. Residents retaining the box were advised that the blue box would not be replaced if it was lost or damaged and replaced with a bin. At the time residents would not have incurred a charge. This has however, now changed due to the introduction of charges for replacement containers.

"Over time many blue boxes have disappeared and residents are now utilising any container to present their waste.

"To ensure that collection systems are efficient and resources managed effectively it is paramount that the collection system is consistent across the borough to increase our recycling performance to 50% by 2020, which is why residents are now being asked to move to a bin collection system if they have not already done so.

"Some properties that are unable to accommodate a wheeled bin can continue to use a box.

"If residents are concerned about only generating small amounts of recycling or the cost of a bin it is possible to share with a neighbour.

"Alternatively, the bin can be presented less often or small amounts of recycling can be disposed of at a household recycling centre.

"The council also offers an assisted collection for those residents who are unable to move a wheeled bin."

● Council extends deadline to order new bins after 'overwhelming response' - Page 17

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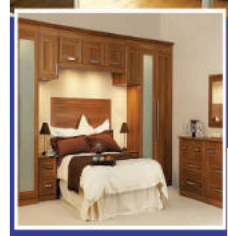

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Cricket club gears up for classic motor show

ORGANISERS will be aiming to bowl over motor vehicle enthusiasts when Mawdesley Cricket Club stages its third annual Classic Car and Motorbike Show on Bank Holiday Monday, May 28.

Classic cars from of all ages are invited to take part, from veteran and vintage up to and including modern marvels, replicas, supercars, and kit cars, with prizes awarded for the most impressive exhibits.

Sited on the playing fields at School Lane, the popular event - which attracted more than 100 cars and 800 visitors last year - will start in the morning with an optional 20-mile drive through the local countryside around Mawdesley and surrounding villages.

One of the classic cars from last year"s show. Photo by Martin Trengove.

All owners entering for the drive will receive a rally plaque to attach to their cars. Vehicles taking part will be asked to register with the officials at School Lane any time between 9.30 and 10.30am to receive their directions for the run which will take about 60 minutes, including stops.

The car show proper will then start at noon with all exhibitors asked to arrive and register by no later than 11.45am.

There will be five categories this year -pre-1950; 1950s & 60s; 1970s & 80s; 1990s and later; and a new category this year for 'active classics' which can include any classic car that is used on a regular basis and not just kept in the garage and polished up for shows.

Owners will be able to register on arrival on the day for the category they would like to enter their car into.

Judging will take place from 12.30pm onwards and winners in a variety of categories will be announced from 3pm with class winners being invited to park up at the front of the show marquee for the public attending to vote for the people's choice of Best in Show.

Refreshments will be available during the day including a cake stall, a cafe, a beer and wine bar, a BBQ and a pie and peas stand.

The show is free to enter for exhibitors but space is limited and places can only be guaranteed to the first 120 cars that arrive on the day.

There will be a £12 charge to those wishing to enter the morning run to cover the costs of providing rally plaques.

Visitors to the event will be charged £3 each, £1 for under-16s, on entry.

All those arriving in a classic car, including passengers, will be given free entry.

To join in the 20-mile local village run download the entry form at www.mawdesley.play-cricket.com and follow the link to the Classic Car Show.

Completed entry forms should be posted with a stamped, self-addressed A4 envelope to 1 Gorsey Lane, Mawdesley, Lancashire.

Rally plaques will be posted before the event.

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Campaign launched to find volunteers to help look after 'beauty spots'

Report by **Henry James**

LANCASHIRE County Council's countryside service has opportunities available for anyone who enjoys the outdoors to get involved in looking after their favourite local beauty spot.

Volunteers play a vital part in keeping the county's country parks, picnic sites, nature reserves and community woodlands looking their best, by carrying out tasks such as planting and pruning, as well as small maintenance tasks such as fixing fences, gates or signs.

County Councillor Albert Atkinson, deputy leader of the county council, said: "Being a countryside volunteer is a great way to stay fit, meet like-minded people, and enjoy the outdoors.

"Volunteers not only have the satisfaction of seeing how their work benefits the environment of the sites, but also the positive impact on the wider community who enjoy visiting them."

The county council has more than 80 countryside sites, including big country parks such as Beacon Fell and Wycoller; picnic sites like Spring Wood and the Crook O' Lune; and nature reserves including Preston Junction and Withnell Fold; along with a wealth of smaller sites, many of them former industrial sites which are now havens for nature.

The authority has recently appointed a new volunteer co-ordinator to work with volunteers around the county to organise and develop their activities.

Cllr Atkinson added: "Volunteers play a vital role in looking after our countryside sites and we're lucky to currently have around 120 people who give their time to help take care of them.

"Prospective volunteers can opt to do as much or as little as they like, so there's no pressure to commit lots of your time. A lot of our countryside volunteers are people who visit their nearest site very frequently and have a sense of pride and ownership towards it, which is why they want to do their bit to keep it looking good.

County Councillor Albert Atkinson says volunteers play a vital role in looking after countryside sites.

"Our rangers make regular site visits but don't always have the time to do everything themselves.

"We really rely on volunteers to carry out small day-to-day tasks such as carrying out repairs to seats and benches or cutting back vegetation. However, one of the most valuable roles is simply to be our eyes and ears.

"We're also keen to develop the role of volunteers, and where local groups want to make bigger improvements to their local site, identify opportunities and support them to do that."

If you think you might be interested in working and volunteering along Lancashire Countryside Service, email countryside@lancashire.gov.uk.

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

We mustn't let solar farm desecrate historic site

WE have fought off so many solar farms in this area, yet again we are faced with another.

Lightsource, a London-based company want to team up with NSG/Pilkingtons and put a solar farm in a most idyllic setting in historic Lathom!

The solar farm would be on the site of the Remount Centre, this field is where historians say the brave war horses are buried.

We all know about the War Horse Walk that is held in recognition of these brave creatures.

To choose this time to put an application in shows how much respect both companies have. This year is the anniversary of the end of the 1914-18 war.

Many hundreds of thousands of war horses and mules went through the Remount Centre. The field in question has never been ploughed in respect for these horses.

Now we are faced with the possibility of an industrial complex desecrating this land.

The only ones to benefit from this are Lightsource (another solar company wanting to ruin Lancashire) and NSG.

Lightsource say they have done geophysical surveys, these prove nothing.

Archaeological digs are the only way to prove anything.

Put them in the grounds of NSG and use their rooftops!

Mr & Mrs Lodge,
Newburgh

Council should dismiss this awful application for 'industrial plant'

I WAS absolutely appalled to see an application for a 'solar industrial plant' (why do they call these things 'farms') at the NSG Site in Hall Lane Lathom.

This is a company from London who want to cover this lovely historic field with awful solar panels where the stables and the horses from the remount depot from the First World War are buried

It would be an absolute travesty to desecrate this historical field with so much significance to Lathom's very historic past.

I urge the council to please dismiss this awful application as it conflicts with the NPPF framework which was the main reason the application for a 90-acre solar farm in Lathom was refused by the council unanimously in 2014.

As an aside I live about a mile from the site and never received any notifications of this application.

I also note most, if not all, of the people in support of this do not live in Lathom!

A. Baybutt

Birds are being shot by the canal

OVER the last month I have found dead herons, cormorants and swans on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal on the Melling to Aintree stretch.

I recently found out why as I saw two young men with air rifles brazenly shooting at the birds.

When I got there one of them was standing on the head of a duck he had just shot.

Who do you report such cruelty and dangerous behaviour to?

Will the police take action on this?

The old saying is that people who kill and torture animals usually move on to bigger game at some point and we all know how that ends!

Paul, by email, details supplied

Time to get our wayward rail service on track

WHEN is the government going to do anything about the shambles that is Northern Rail?

For the past month or so there has been a stream of cancellations and lengthy delays with staff at the stations seemingly as much in the dark about what's going as the poor, paying public.

It's got to the stage now where I just turn up at the station and hope for the best.

And the so-called 'information' boards on the platforms are as much use as a chocolate teapot with messages constantly changing and constantly wrong.

Frustrated regular rail user,
details supplied

Council's new parking charges are unfair to short-stay motorists

NOT sure what other readers' thoughts are on the new parking charges in Ormskirk. I think the council and local businesses are wrong in thinking the increase will encourage people to stay longer.

I think it will have the opposite effect and stop people from going altogether.

Just because you have to pay for up to three hours doesn't mean you want to stay for up to three hours.

I attend the gym at Park Pool a couple of times a week at 5pm and now end up paying £1 for half-an-hour parking instead of 70p because the charges are up to 5.30pm.

This could add quite an amount for the year to park, in addition to the gym fee!

This new pricing structure is penalising the people who want to visit the gym for an hour or so and also those who want to just nip into Ormskirk for a bit of shopping and don't have time to shop around for up three hours!

If it was solely to encourage people to stay longer why not just leave it at 70p but increase the time to up to three hours?

Oh, but of course, this wouldn't make the council more money would it?

Unhappy motorist,
Name & address supplied

PICTURE of the week

Pupils at Crawford Primary School in Up Holland await the arrival of two classmates who took part in their own 'royal wedding.' Picture by Martyn Snape.

Drop us a line...

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume, or one may be provided for them.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

■ PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.

Sign up today to become a community reserve volunteer with the British Red Cross

THE British Red Cross responds to an emergency every four hours in the UK - from fires, extreme weather and flooding, to national emergencies including acts of terror.

However, it's not just emergency services and the Government that can help in these response efforts.

According to a new report published by the British Red Cross and Aviva, the large majority of people (85%) in Lancashire say that if an emergency happened in their community they would want to get involved, yet more than half (60%) of people would not know what to do if a disaster struck.

In partnership with Aviva we are calling on people across Lancashire to sign up to a new scheme called community reserve volunteers, to help create a national network of 10,000 people ready to help in a local emergency.

Last year we faced an unprecedented number of major emergencies, including in London and Manchester.

These incidents brought tragedy to so many people, but we also saw remarkable acts of kindness, as people and businesses rallied to help in any way they could. We saw that people want to help those in crisis.

Everyone has a role to play when disaster strikes, even the smallest act of kindness can make a huge difference. It's quick and easy to sign up online, you don't need specialist skills and we need your help now more than ever.

So please sign up today, it takes just 10 minutes, at redcross.org.uk/reserves.

Simon Lewis,
head of Crisis Response,
British Red Cross

Deadline to order new bins extended

Council gives residents until July 16 to apply after 'overwhelming response'

FOLLOWING an overwhelming response, West Lancashire Borough Council has announced that the deadline to order bins has been extended until Monday, July 16 to give residents more time to request the wheeled bins they need to recycle their waste.

Those residents that have already received their new bins can start using them from Monday, June 4.

Residents who previously signed up to the garden waste service will receive the same number of brown bins - which will now be used for garden waste - free of charge if they sign up again for the same number, before the extended deadline.

One green bin can then be used for paper and cardboard recycling.

For residents who don't have gardens and never received a free green bin, which is now needed for paper and cardboard recycling, one will be available free of charge if requested before the extended July 16 deadline; after which the normal charges for replacement bins will apply.

Whilst is it acknowledged that a number of years ago, residents were given an option to retain their blue box, the service provision is now changing so that the council can work towards meeting its recycling target of 50% by 2020.

Councillor Kevin Wilkie

Blue boxes will only be retained and collected from premises that are unable to have a blue bin on site due to their design or if there are vehicle access issues to the location.

All other properties will receive a standard wheeled bin collection service for each waste stream and therefore any residents who need a blue bin will need to order one at the normal charges.

The council says the new bin system has been introduced to make it easier for residents and provide greater capacity for them to recycle as much as possible to help the authority reach its recycling target.

And council chiefs say it will also help contain the material better, keeping streets cleaner and helping to make collection rounds safer and more efficient.

Councillor Kevin Wilkie, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for street scene, said: "This is great news for residents.

"If you have already placed an order for a bin you do not need to get in touch again as this will be processed as soon as possible and residents can continue to use their existing containers until the new bins are delivered."

Deliveries of the new bins will continue into the summer and then the old spare green bins will be collected.

Residents who had more than one green bin for garden waste do not need to contact the council regarding the collection of their old bins but are asked where possible to leave them in an accessible place and they will be collected after the brown bins have been rolled out.

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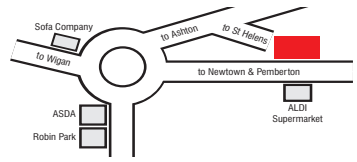

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Beware of poison in the flower beds!

GARDENERS in West Lancs are being warned to beware of poisonous and toxic plants lurking in the flowerbeds.

Experts at online site, BillyOh.com, have compiled a list of 10 deadly plants to avoid.

While many might think poisonous plants are only to be found in the pages of fairy tales, the reality is that some of the nation's favourite and most common domestic and wild plants are actually harbouring harmful, and even deadly, toxins. These are foxglove, hydrangea, poinsettia, purple nightshade, lily-of-the-valley, oleander, water hemlock, mistletoe, larkspur and wolfsbane.

Sarah Samways from BillyOh.com said: "Whilst most are only deadly if consumed in large quantities, they still pack nasty toxins that can cause some pretty horrible side effects, from vomiting and diarrhoea, to hallucinations and convulsions."

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County council seeks to allay parents' fears for future of 'crisis' school

Authority pledges immediate action after MP raises concerns

Report by **Kenny Parker**

COUNTY council education chiefs have assured Rosie Cooper that they are taking immediate action to tackle serious concerns about a primary school in West Lancashire.

The MP had highlighted fears for the future of Mossy Lea Primary in Wrightington after parents had contacted her describing what they termed a 'crisis' at the school.

It was feared that the school might only have a pupil roll of just six come September, while parents also alleged there was a shortage of teachers due to staff sickness and the National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) advising members against applying for positions there.

Two teachers were also reported to have left on the same day recently with immediate effect, based on union advice.

It was also claimed that children had been sent home because of the upset caused, while parents also complained of not being kept fully informed of developments, with reports of governors leaving also.

Ms Cooper contacted John Readman, the executive director of education and children's services at Lancashire County Council to seek an urgent update on the situation at the school.

Mossy Lea Primary School in Wrightington - the county council says it has taken measures to tackle parents' concerns.

In a phone call and subsequent follow-up letter, the county council assured the MP that the NAHT had lifted any 'ban' on their members working at the school and a seconded deputy, Iain Pearson, had returned to school.

Support

The authority also said that Dave Fann, an experienced head teacher, had been asked to work as executive head two days a week and governors from other areas were being brought in to strengthen Mossy Lea's governing body.

If further stated that Mossy Lea would have immediate access to support in training for all staff through the Teaching School Alliance; would continue to receive support from local authority advisers and consultants; and that a newsletter had been sent to all parents informing them of developments.

Meanwhile the West Lancs MP says she has taken the issue up with the Education Secretary, the chair of Ofsted and the president of the NAHT.

She said: "I will be meeting with John Readman again later this month to discuss the issues and the progress made.

"Any West Lancashire parents who are concerned about the school, please do not hesitate to contact me at rosie@rosie-cooper.net or on 01695 570094."

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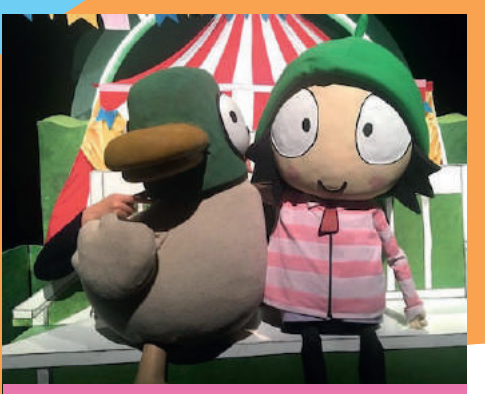

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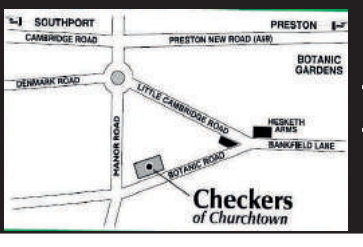

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Council puts the bite on dog owner

Man hit with £830 bill after pet found straying with no micochip and no collar and tag

A DOG owner has been handed a bill for £830 after being prosecuted for failing to get his dog microchipped and ensuring it was wearing a collar and tag in public.

West Lancashire Borough Council took legal action against Adrian Murray, of Mottram Close, Kirkby, after his dog, a female Shih-Tzu, was found straying in Simonswood and handed over to the council by a member of the public.

The dog was not wearing a collar and tag and was not microchipped.

Dog owners can face an unlimited fine if their dog is not wearing an identity disc in public. If they have more than one dog in public without identity discs they can face separate fines for each dog.

It is also a legal requirement for dogs to be microchipped and the owner's contact details kept up to date.

Anyone failing to meet these requirements can be served with a 21-day legal notice ordering them to get their dog chipped.

Councillor Kevin Wright

Failure to comply with the notice can result in prosecution and a fine of up to £500 per dog.

Dogs with microchips where the owner has failed to keep their contact details up to date will be deemed not to be microchipped.

Mr Murray reclaimed his dog from the kennels and was served with a legal notice asking him to comply with legislation regarding the microchipping of dogs and provide the council with proof of microchipping.

He failed to comply with the notice and was prosecuted for both that offence and not ensuring the dog was wearing a collar and tag while in public.

Warning

He did not attend the hearing at Wigan Magistrates Court and was fined £440, and ordered to pay £360 costs and a £30 victim surcharge.

Councillor Kevin Wright, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for community safety, said: "The council takes its role with regards the laws around dogs very seriously.

"So be warned, dog owners who fail to comply with the legislation could face heavy fines.

"When a dog is microchipped it can help trace who the keeper of the dog is. This may assist in reuniting dogs with their keepers or trace the keepers of dogs involved in attacks."

Got a story? Ring the Champ News Desk on 01704 392400 or email us at editorial@champnews.com

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Chance to enjoy amazing 'egg to duckling experience' at Martin Mere this half-term

The 'egg-to-duckling experience' is returning to WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre this May half-term.

THE May school half-term sees the return of the award-winning 'egg-to-duckling experience' at the WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre.

Running from Saturday, May 26 to Sunday, June 3, the event allows visitors to the Burscough reserve to enjoy this amazing opportunity to discover how ducklings develop inside an egg, hatch out of the shell and then further develop in the duckling nursery.

Centre manager, Nick Brooks, said: "May half-term offers some amazing experiences that are unique to Martin Mere.

"Children, and adults of all ages, can take part in fascinating egg candling workshops (where a light is used to look inside an egg), see eggs hatching and meet fluffy ducklings in the nursery.

"It's an award-winning experience and a great day out for the whole family."

The event runs from 11am to 4pm, with the duckling nursery open between 11.30am and 3.30pm.

Downy Duckling activities are included in the centre admission price but tickets to the egg candling workshop will be issued from the visitor services team as places are limited.

Grounds manager, Steve Nasir, added: "Already this year we have had cape barren, black swan cygnets and nene goslings hatch, as well as an abundance of mallard and moorhen ducklings and chicks.

"We are hopeful for a really good breeding season this year."

Afternoon tea and inspiration on the menu for civic duo

THE Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancashire, Councillor Noel Delaney and Mrs Ann Stubbert, will attend an Afternoon Tea and 'Age of Inspiration' event at the Tanhouse Community Centre, Ennerdale, Skelmersdale at 1pm on Thursday, May 24.

The event has been organised by the Sewing Rooms in Skelmersdale who are launching practical ways to stay strong and resilient for the over-50s.

Fun in the mud kitchen for young visitors to the Burscough Village Primary School nursery open day

Nursery open day at village primary school

STAFF at Burscough Village Primary welcomed parents and prospective pupils to a Nursery and Kids' Club Open Day at the school in Colburne Close.

During the event children were able to enjoy a wide range of activities, from planting their own sunflower seeds to testing their 'construction skills' using play dough, building dens in the dinosaur area and helping out in the mud kitchen!

Youngsters also had the opportunity to have fun in the outdoor space while learning how to pond-dip or safely toast marshmallows around the fire pit.

Headteacher, Anna Smith, said: "It was a fabulous opportunity to show our school and outdoor learning environment to those who may not have already seen it."

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New cafe bar raises funds for Rainbow House

A FAMILY fun event at a town-centre restaurant and cafe bar raised more than £140 for charity.

The fundraiser at the new Nordico Lounge in Moor Street, Ormskirk was staged on behalf of Mawdesley-based Rainbow House, which supports children and young people with neurological and physical conditions. The event featured a Mad Hatter's Tea Party with face painting, games, cakes and biscuits.

A second event with a superheroes theme will be held at the venue from noon to 4pm on Saturday, May 26.

And there will also be a sponsored walk on Bank Holiday Monday, May 28 starting at 5pm following the 'War Horse' route from Ormskirk railway station to Lathom Park,

General manager, John Childs, says they plan to run monthly events for the charity.

Chief executive of Rainbow House, Ben Blackman, said: "We really appreciate the support from the team at the Nordico Lounge and thanks to the staff and customers for raising funds to help our work."

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A scary Popeye spoiled my trips to the funfair!

I WAS reminded of my childhood a couple of Sundays ago when I decided on a bus ride from my Maghull fastness to Southport to do a little shopping.

It was a lovely summer-like day, shirt-sleeve weather and, most unusually for a Sunday, the bus was fully loaded, presumably with day-trippers, by the time it left Lydiate.

And, interestingly in this age of the almost universal motorcar, not all were persons of a certain age (such as I) but families too.

In short, just like in the days of my childhood, a weekend bus to Southport was full of folk.

Anyway, it got me thinking. It was good that so many people should choose to travel by bus to the seaside,

Mind you, back in the day it wouldn't have been 'the' bus. Usually, around lunchtime - which it was - the regular 302 service (yes, I know it's 300 now but back then the 300 operated only about twice a day via Shirdley Hill) swept past our stop in Maghull, full and with standing passengers. No worries though, there was always a duplicate behind it and sometimes two!

Now, so far as my brother George and I were concerned, going to Southport meant really only two things - the funfair and if the weather was really clement, the outdoor swimming baths.

Oh, and of course, a trip on the miniature railway to a place called *Peter Pan's Playground*, a place only really of interest to very little kids, but happily next door to the back entrance to the funfair proper and therefore 'a good thing'.

Actually, the walk from the bus to the Pleasure Beach included having to pass what was a scene of humiliation for me and something I was not allowed to forget for many, many years.

Outside what was either, I think, an amusement arcade or a cafe, there was a lifesize dummy of Popeye. An abhorrence which swayed drunkenly from side to side, the while uttering a crazy laugh, if you could call it that.

The thing was terrifying to a baby (which of course I was when I first encountered this horror) or at any rate terrifying to this one, and my reluctance to pass this effigy lasted for several years - possibly until I was old enough to appreciate the Popeye cartoons and love the character.

Too late though to allow me to forget - younger brother George made sure of that - but then, my parents had taken care to prepare him for the gruesome sailor man.

What, I wonder, happened to poor old Popeye? He probably gave amusement to many youngsters in his time.

Anyway, my early memories of Southport are all of the funfair, and George and I had our regular route through the rides, starting at the Caterpillar and finishing with the Ghost Train and the River Caves.

Plus the seemingly long and dusty way back to the bus which was usually less crowded than the outward journey - probably because there was a greater choice of departure times - and remember, back then you could catch a bus home until very late in the evening, meaning that older folk could stay for a show, a meal or a few drinks in a pub.

Thinking along these lines, I realise that the private car, though it has brought far more choice as to when you go or return, also rather limits what you can do too. After all, a few alcoholic drinks are out so that more or less rules out the pub and possibly spoils the meal as well. Swings and roundabouts I suppose.

On this recent Sunday I contented myself with visits to a cut-price book shop, a supermarket, a 'pound shop' and W. H. Smith's.

Pleasant enough, but not that much fun.

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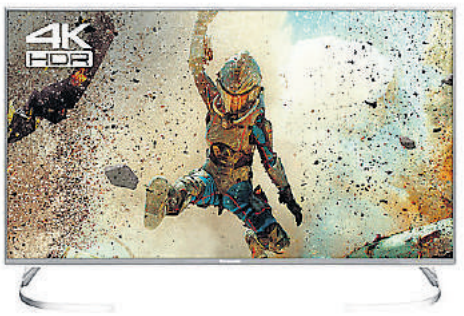

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Ormskirk Bowling Club is holding free taster sessions for potential newcomers to the sport.

Bowling club running free taster sessions for new trundlers

A WEST Lancs club is urging residents of all ages to go along and try a sport that is suitable for all the family - young or old!

Ormskirk Bowling Club is inviting potential would-be trundlers to take the opportunity to gain new friends while enjoying a bit of gentle exercise, by staging free taster sessions.

The club, which has been up and running for just over two years, is opening its doors to anyone who would like to try crown green bowls on its fantastic new artificial and grass bowling greens.

A club official described crown green bowls as 'simple to learn but a bit more difficult to master' and the ideal sport for all ages that anyone can try.

The free taster sessions are being run on Thursdays, May 24 and 31, starting at 7pm and all are welcome to attend either or both.

'Fantastic'

No booking is necessary and no special equipment is needed - all you need to take is a pair of trainers to play in.

And for those who enjoy it there will be further coaching sessions held.

The club is located at the back of Ormskirk Cricket Club, off Altys Lane and there is plenty of parking available.

The club also runs junior bowling sessions on Thursdays at 6pm and anyone aged between seven and 16 is welcome to have a go with no charge for the first session.

Club coach and secretary, Ian Gill, said: "We have already had quite a few beginners of all ages join our club and as we are a new club it is a fantastic way to meet new people and enjoy a new sport.

"Bring the whole family along and have a go - most people who play always say they wish they had taken it up at a younger age."

For further details contact Ian on 07500 918 081.

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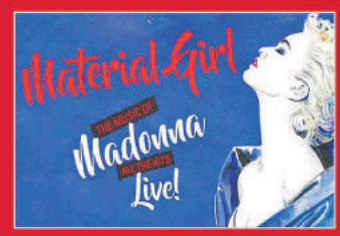
WED 20 - FRI 22	WALLY CAIN DANCE FESTIVAL	7.00PM



JULY

THU 12	MATERIAL GIRL - THE MADONNA STORY	7.30PM
FRI 13	THE DRIFTERS	7.30PM
WED 18	LAND OF HOPE AND GLORY - FH*	2.30PM
SUN 22	BROADWAY MUSICALS - FH*	2.30PM

AUG

SAT 04	BARRY STEELE AND FRIENDS - THE ROY ORBISON STORY	7.30PM
FRI 17	THAT'LL BE THE DAY	7.30PM
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FRI 24	CROONERS	7.30PM
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MP raises issues over transparency in contracting out of health services

Report by **Kenny Parker**

ROSIE Cooper has called for a halt to what she described as the 'galloping privatisation' of the NHS in a Parliamentary debate.

The West Lancs MP (pictured) raised issues over openness and transparency in contracting out by the West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group and what she described as the dilution of services by private healthcare providers after they secure NHS contracts, which are directly funded by the taxpayers.

Private healthcare providers have also been accused of putting shareholder profits before patient safety.

Since the CCG began the tendering process which resulted in Virgin Care being awarded the contract for Ormskirk's walk-in centre, the opening hours have been reduced.

Ms Cooper said: "This galloping privatisation cannot and must not continue. This is our National Health Service which we pay for and we must continue to fight for it to be kept in public hands, accountable and responsible to the public and not to private shareholders.

"During the debate in Parliament, I called on the Secretary of State for Health to explain why there are not more stringent procedures in place to ensure the taxpayers know where their money goes, and also to stop CCGs fobbing off members of the public and MPs with phrases such as 'commercial confidentiality' when being scrutinised or held to account.

"With information, including that relating to patient safety, remaining behind closed doors without the possibility of scrutiny, how are the Care Quality Commission, NHS England, NHS Improvement and members of Parliament meant to hold CCGs and private providers to account?

"This constant sub-contracting between private companies severely limits our abilities to hold private providers to account."

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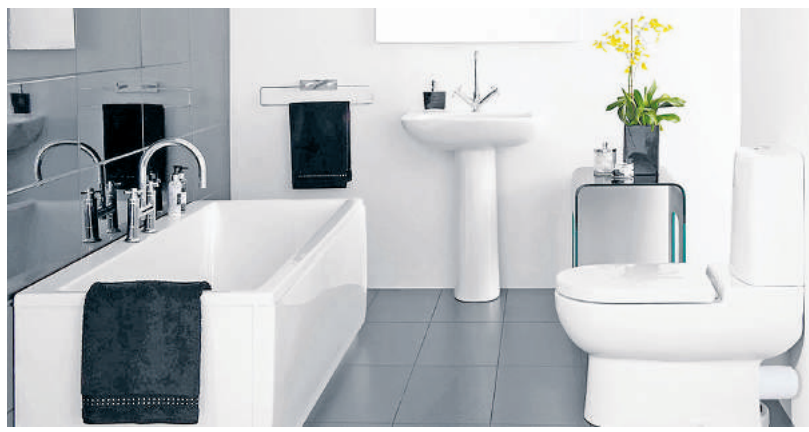

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School hockey squad on target for county games finals

THE quick sticks hockey squad from Scarisbrick Hall School *(pictured right)* are celebrating after securing a place at the largest youth sporting event in the county.

They will now represent West Lancs at the SPAR Lancashire School Games finals where they will compete against teams from 14 other districts in a bid to be crowned county champions.

More than 3,500 children from schools across Lancashire's 15 districts are battling it out for places at the finals - to be staged at Blackpool's Stanley Park on July 3 - in 16 sports including gymnastics, football, athletics and touch rugby.

Time to recognise unsung heroes of grassroots football

NOMINATIONS have opened for the 2018 McDonald's Grassroots Football Awards, in association with the four UK Football Associations.

The awards recognise the army of grassroots volunteers and football clubs all over the UK, celebrating the impact they have among their local communities.

Every year the awards receive thousands of nominations and are backed by football legends including Sir Geoff Hurst, Ryan Giggs, Kenny Dalglish and Pat Jennings.

Former England international and McDonald's ambassador, Wayne Bridge, is leading the call for nominations, urging communities across the UK to honour their local heroes.

He said; "The McDonald's Grassroots Football Awards are a fantastic way to recognise the thousands of unsung volunteers who support the grassroots game all over the country.

"I'm blown away by the incredible dedication, passion and enthusiasm of our grassroots volunteers and I can't think of a better way to celebrate their achievements. Everyone involved in grassroots football is eligible to be nominated, from coaches to club secretaries, so make sure you nominate a local hero!

FA chairman, Greg Clarke, added: "The FA and McDonald's Grassroots Football Awards are integral to recognising the thousands of exceptional grassroots volunteers all over the UK.

"By providing youngsters with the opportunity to play the nation's favourite game in a fun and safe environment these volunteers allow the next generation of footballing superstars to develop their skills. It's not an exaggeration to say that without their hard work and dedication, football in this country wouldn't be the same."

Former England international Wayne Bridge is calling for nominations for the McDonald's Grassroots Awards

The awards, which take place in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, have a range of categories, including, Coach of the Year, Club of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Football Mum of the Year and Community Project of the Year.

Nominations are now open. To nominate a grassroots football club or volunteer go to www.mcdonalds.co.uk/awards.

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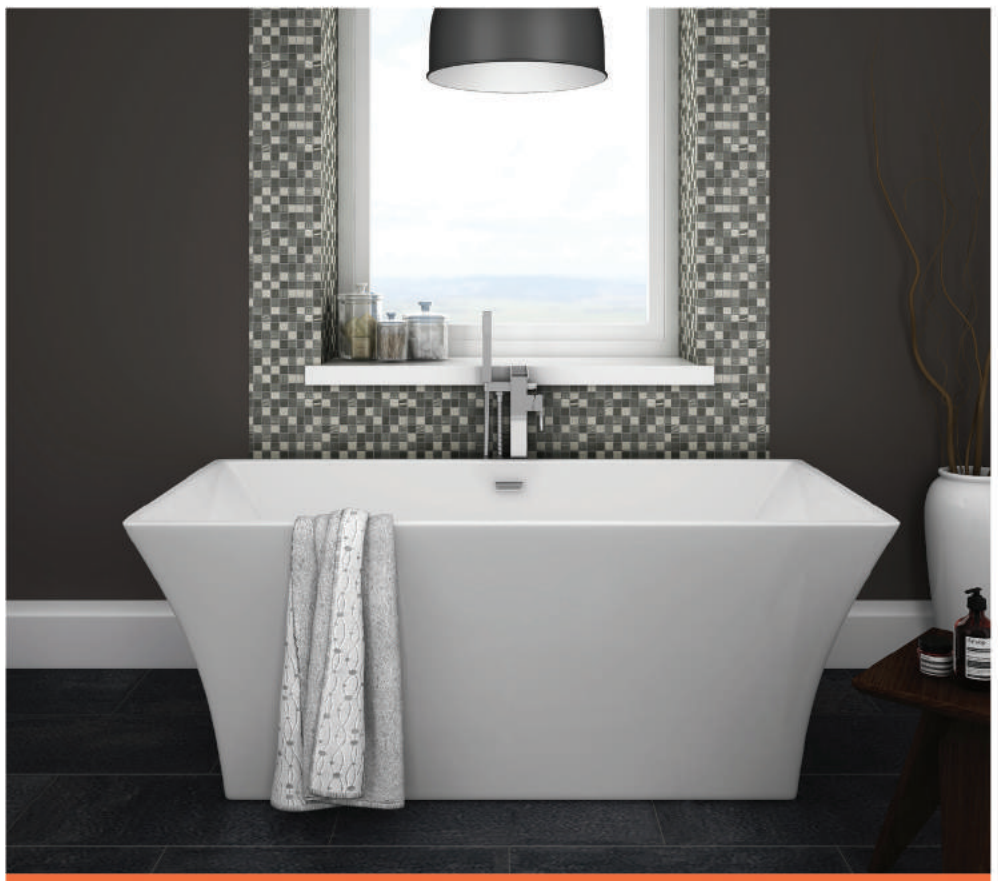

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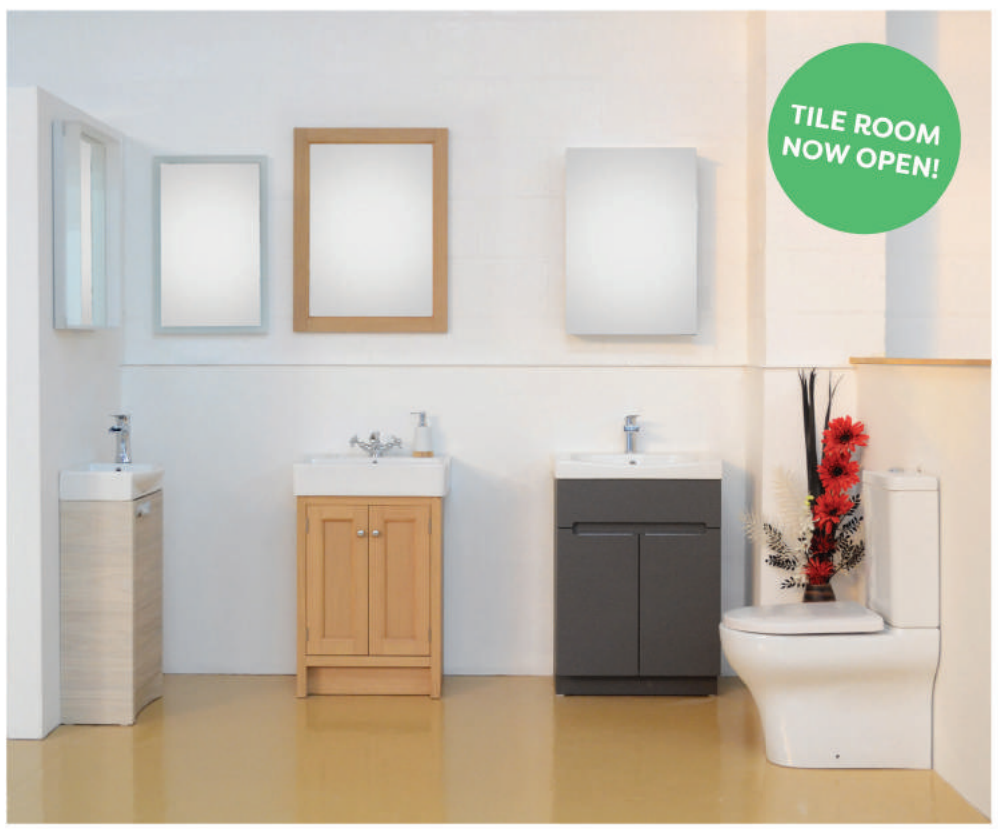

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Apache performing on the video for their debut single, ***Hardline***.

Band launch debut single with video featuring hometown landmarks

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A RECENTLY-formed West Lancs-based band are hoping to rock their way to stardom after recording their first single complemented by a self-made video.

Guitarist Andy Johnson from Ormskirk formed Apache earlier this year with drummer Hollie Moore from St Helens, with Andy's teenage son Ross (bass) and pal Jon Lumberg (vocals/guitar) completing the line-up.

Their first gig saw them perform at a 21st birthday party in Runcorn, playing mostly popular rock covers, plus their own composition, *Hardline*, which Andy says received a fantastic reception.

That persuaded the band, who practise at the E Rooms in Skelmersdale, to record it as a single.

Andy said: "We played *Hardline* live for the first time and the reaction was amazing. We knew then that we needed to record it in a studio."

And after recording the song at the Sounds Affects studio in Ormskirk they set about filming a video to accompany it, arranged, directed and edited by the band members themselves, with the help of friends Elliot Higham and Emma Lousha.

Incorporating a number of local landmarks, including Church Walks, the Clock Tower and Coronation Park, the video aims to tell the 'story' behind the song.

Andy explains: "*Hardline* essentially is a song about female empowerment and the video features a lady, who, after getting some bad news about her partner, sets about righting the wrong in a no-nonsense 'hardline' style."

While Apache's set is mostly made up of covers, they do have lofty ambitions of making their own brand of 'dirty blues rock' heard and having already secured gigs at locations around the North West, they are also hoping to perform at a particular 'home' venue.

"Playing the Ormskirk bandstand would be great!" says Andy.

To see video Hardline either go to the band website (www.apacheband.weebly.com) or go to YouTube and search Apache Hardline.

Frack Free meeting

LOCAL environmental group Frack Free Burscough is holding a public meeting on Thursday, May 31 to address local concerns about fracking in the county and borough.

The aim is to provide residents with an opportunity to gain more information and to be able to put questions to a panel of guest speakers.

The meeting will be held at the Stanley Club, Liverpool Road North, Burscough, with time to browse the information displays available before the start of the meeting proper at 7.30pm.

Care home residents enjoy trip to see Concorde

RESIDENTS from Athena Healthcare Group care homes in West Lancs and Sefton enjoyed a 'flying visit' with a difference when they were treated to a complimentary tour of Concorde at Manchester Airport.

The group, including residents living with dementia from Abbey Wood Lodge in Ormskirk, were joined for the trip to the airport's Runway Visitor Park Conference Centre where the legendary supersonic aircraft is housed, by the Mayor of Maghull, Councillor June Burns, on her last civic engagement.

Lesley Malone, activities and events co-ordinator for Athena Healthcare Group, said it was a fantastic afternoon as the tour guide gave the party a comprehensive rundown of the iconic aircraft's history.

A British-French turbojet-powered supersonic passenger airliner, Concorde was first flown in 1969 and was in service from 1976 to 2003.

It had a maximum speed over twice the speed of sound at Mach 2.04 (1,354 mph at cruise altitude) and could fly from New York to Paris in just under three-and-a-half hours.

The visit was particularly memorable for one of the group who had travelled on the supersonic plane many times as part of his job

Residents from Athena Healthcare Group pictured in front of the iconic Concorde.

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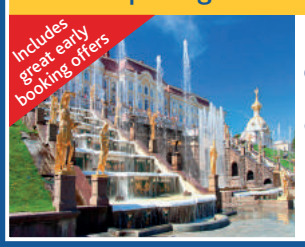
Exploring the Beautiful Baltic (W1915)



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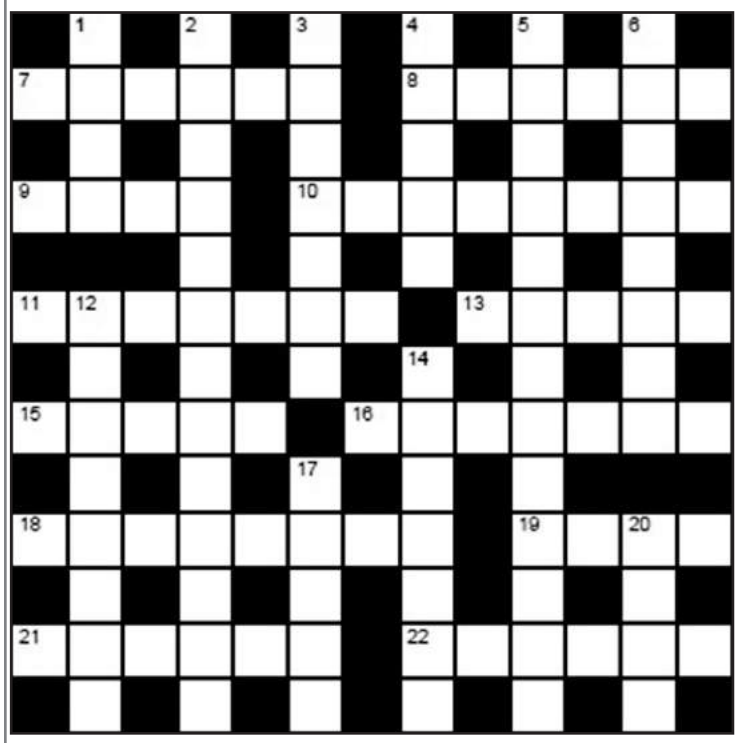

Last week's solutions:
Across: 7. Confectionery. 8. Trustful. 9. Idle. 10. Earthly. 12. Usage. 14. Smite. 16. Tipster. 19. Parr. 20. Inscribe. 22. Administrator.
Down: 1. Lour. 2. Offset. 3. Scuffle. 4. Bible. 5. Antics. 6. Prologue. 11. Arm candy. 13. Hirsute. 15. Torrid. 17. Streak. 18. Livid. 21. Boor.

ACROSS

7. Detachable, self-contained unit of a spacecraft (6)
8. Ostentatious (6)
9. The lower part of the wall of a room when decorated differently from the upper (4)
10. Guide or direct in a particular direction (8)
11. When the sun is obscured, completely or partly, by the moon (7)
13. Unfashionable and unstylish in appearance (5)
15. Break out suddenly and dramatically (5)
16. Having an irritable disposition (7)
18. Latin phrase meaning genuine or authentic (4, 4)
19. System of words, letters, figures, or symbols used to represent others (4)
21. Spotted big cat of Central and South America (6)
22. Steal something (6)

DOWN

1. Protein derived from the beans of an Asian plant (4)
2. Contagious, often fatal epidemic disease (7, 6)
3. Continue in an opinion or course of action in spite of difficulty or opposition (7)
4. In the time following (5)
5. A person who places too much value on popular trends and styles (7, 6)
6. Game in which players guess a word or phrase from written or acted clues (8)
12. Non-commissioned officer in the army below sergeant (8)
14. Souvenir, keepsake (7)
17. Seventh sign of the Zodiac (5)
20. A celebrated female opera singer (4)

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Healthwatch reveals new face at the helm

By **Henry James**

David Blacklock

HEALTHWATCH Lancashire has announced the appointment of its new chief executive, David Blacklock.

David took up the post this month and will be working alongside the Healthwatch Lancashire Board to develop existing services, as well as introducing innovative ways to better engage with residents across the county.

He said: "Ensuring that the people of Lancashire have their say on their health and care services is my top priority.

"We all deserve the very best care for our loved ones and for ourselves and my role will be key to ensuring that the voices of Lancashire's residents are heard by the right people, in the right organisations."

David and his team will be working with colleagues in partner organisations to ensure that the thoughts and experiences of local people are heard loud and clear and that they can influence how health and social care services are reshaped across the county.

He brings a wealth of skills and knowledge to the role, as well as a passion for ensuring that all members of the community have an equal voice.

Previously he has worked in a variety of roles at People First Independent Advocacy since 2000, becoming chief executive in 2008.

David continued: "I am committed to developing our relationships with stakeholders even further to get the very best outcomes for the people of Lancashire."

Pupils reminded of support service during exams

PUPILS who are currently studying for their A-level or GCSE exams are reminded that help, support and guidance is available from Lancashire County Council's advice service, Talkzone.

Young people aged from 12 to 19 can access this support by telephone, text, webtalk, email and Facebook. It is also available for any young person up to the age of 25 with special educational needs or a disability. Talkzone, is provided by the county council's children and family wellbeing service, is available between 2 and 10pm, every day of the year, including weekends and bank holidays.

County Councillor Susie Charles, Lancashire's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "I appreciate that this can be a very stressful time for young people who may be feeling the pressure of exams approaching and revision still to do.

"Through Talkzone, young people can speak with trained advisers in confidence and chat through their worries about exams, or about anything else that is worrying them."

The service is open from 2 to 10pm, every day of the year and young people are welcome to ring on 0800 511111, text on 07786 511111, or email talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk

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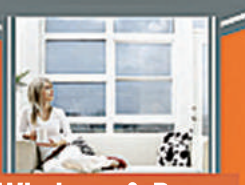

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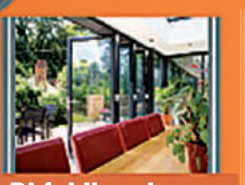

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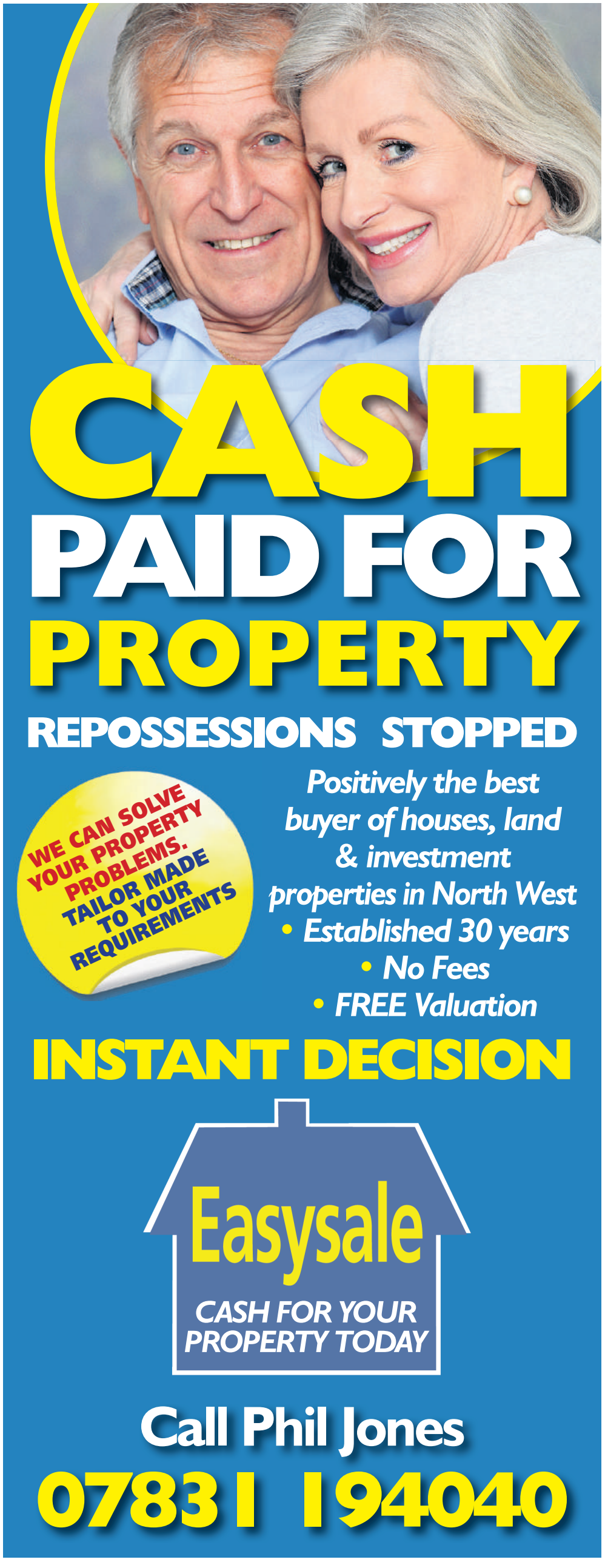

How to access health care service over the Spring Bank Holiday

WITH the Spring Bank Holiday fast approaching, local health professionals are reminding people to examine their options, should they or their family members become unwell over the long weekend.

Many GP practices will be closed over the bank holiday weekend, so it is also wise for people to think about repeat prescriptions they will need before the holiday period begins.

Dr John Caine

Dr John Caine, a GP in West Lancashire and chair at NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), said: "We are reminding people about the services on offer to them such as advice on the NHS choices website and by calling NHS 111 which will be invaluable during the bank holiday weekend."

Residents will be able to find up-to-the-minute information on where to go if they fall ill during the bank holiday at the CCG's website, as well as their Twitter and Facebook pages, or they can visit Examine Your Options at www.examineyouroptions.info

Several pharmacies will be open throughout the bank holiday weekend and the best way to find out which and when is to visit the CCG website and check out their Twitter and Facebook pages for on-the-day updates.

People can also find a wealth of trusted advice about hundreds of health conditions and details of GPs, pharmacies in their local area by visiting www.nhs.uk.

If you need medical help or advice fast, but it is not a 999 emergency, you can also call the NHS 111 service. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and calls are free from mobiles and landlines.

If anyone needs medical care for illnesses they cannot treat themselves, then their GP should be their next port of call.

A GP will be available from 8am to 6.30pm weekdays (local GP practice times may vary). If people don't have a GP, they can register with their local surgery. People who are not sure where this is can find out at www.nhs.uk or by calling 0300 311 22 33.

In West Lancashire, residents can now see a GP in the evenings and weekends at certain times.

Tuesdays: Skelmersdale Family Practice, 6.30 to 8pm

Wednesdays: Matthew Ryder Clinic (Up Holland) and Tarleton Group Practice, 6.30 to 8pm

Thursdays: The West Lancashire Walk-in Centre, Ormskirk, 6.30 to 8pm.

Saturdays: Sandy Lane Health Centre, Skelmersdale; Burscough Health Centre; and Ormskirk Medical Centre, 10am to 4pm – GP, nurse and blood clinics at Sandy Lane and Burscough, GP and nurse only at Ormskirk.

Sundays: Sandy Lane Health Centre; Burscough Health Centre; and Ormskirk Medical Practice, 10am to 2pm – GP and nurse appointments only.

People who want to make an appointment to see an extended hours GP, should contact their GP practice.

Over the Spring Bank Holiday, additional appointments will be available on Monday, May 28 from 10am to 2pm at Sandy Lane Health Centre in Skelmersdale.

If the local surgery is closed, residents can still see a GP with the GP out-of-hours service; just call 111 and they can speak to a local GP over the phone or face-to-face if necessary.

It is very likely that people will be seen and treated more quickly using the out-of-hours service than if they were waiting to see a doctor in A&E, especially at busy times.

For more information visit www.examineyouroptions.info

West Lancashire has two walk-in centres. The West Lancashire Walk-in Centre in Ormskirk is based at Ormskirk Hospital, Wigan Road and is open from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. The Skelmersdale Walk-in Centre at The Concourse, Skelmersdale is open from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week.

Colleagues within these centres, can treat minor injuries and minor ailments and all services are delivered by Virgin Care.

Both walk-in centres will be open from 8am to 8pm on the Spring Bank Holiday Monday, May 28.

Residents can manage their repeat prescriptions and make GP appointments from the comfort of their own home by using the new free Patient Access website and smartphone app. Simply search for 'Patient Access' in the app store. Remember though, if using Patient Access for the very first time, they will first have to contact their GP practice so that they can register to use the app.

For West Lancashire pharmacy opening times over the bank holiday visit http://www.westlancashireccg.nhs.uk/resources/patient-and-public-information/west-lancashire-pharmacy-bank-holiday-opening-times/

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Win tickets to Some Guys Have All The Luck

40 years since the critically acclaimed Do Ya Think I'm Sexy? topped the charts in the UK, the theatrical production Some Guys Have All The Luck is set to rock the stage at Southport Theatre, on Friday, June 15 and the Champion has tickets to giveaway.

Direct from the West End, Some Guys Have All The Luck celebrates the career of one of rock's greatest icons, Rod Stewart, covering his incredible journey from street busker to international superstar.

Southport Theatre are giving away three pairs of tickets ahead of the show which would make ideal early Father's Day presents.

Paying homage to Rod Stewart is Paul Metcalfe, who aims to deliver both an authentic and charismatic performance from the distinctive vocals to the swaggering showmanship and sheer fun that has made Rod one of the most loved performers of all time.

The show also features songs from Rod Stewart's time with The Faces as well as a full concert production in the second half of the show with classic hits including Maggie May, Baby Jane, Da Ya Think I'm Sexy, Sailing and You're In My Heart.

Paul Metcalfe as Rod Stewart

Some Guys Have All The Luck – The Rod Stewart Story is at Southport Theatre on Friday, June 15, 7.30pm. For more information or to book tickets call 0844 871 3021 or visit www.atgtickets.com/southport

To be in with a chance of winning the tickets, answer the following question. What year was Rod Stewart born? Answers to Champion newspapers, Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport, PR9 OQA. Please supply your address and a contact number. The usual Champion competition rules apply. The competition closing date is 12noon on Tuesday, May 29.

Anniversary being celebrated

A GROUP of like minded people who enjoyed sharing with each other their love and appreciation of the arts came together 50 years ago and founded the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Society, known popularly as NADFAS but now renamed The Arts Society.

Shortly after the founding of the national society, several other local societies, including one in Southport and Formby were formed, and became associated with NADFAS.

Southport now has just more than 500 members who pursue one of the aims by attending lectures, study days, day trips and longer tours.

Tomorrow (Thursday, May 24) the members of the Arts Society, Southport will be joined by the chief executive of the Arts Society, Florian Schweizer, to celebrate with a reception marking the founding of the national society which has given birth to such a world wide family of societies for the pleasure of all the members.

Fun for children at Chapel gallery

Report by **Kenny Parker**

CHILDREN can have fun at the Chapel gallery, St Helens Road, Ormskirk, by joining creative sessions during half term which are planned to get them singing, moving, crafting and making.

The following sessions are aimed at children and they can play games, make crafts and enjoy movement and drama activities:

'Enter the Animal Kingdom', for 5-7-year-olds, Tuesday May 29, 9.30am and 12.30pm 'Build our own world', for 5-7-year-olds, Wednesday 30 May, 9.30am 12.30pm 'Leap into summer', for 8-11-year-olds, Thursday 31 May, 2pm-5pm

Sessions cost £7 per child and parents can book onto any of them by contacting the West Lancs council-run gallery on 01685 571328 or emailing chapel.gallery@westlancs.gov.uk. Children who attend should bring a drink and a snack for break-time.

The whole family can enjoy the 'Bloom Creatively' free family-friendly sessions at the gallery on Wednesday, May 30 between 1pm and 4pm and Thursday May 31 between 10am and 1pm. People of all ages are welcome to go along and use their imagination to create amazing animals, birds, plants and trees that will be part of a spectacular sculptural garden artwork leading visitors into the gallery. No need to book in advance. This project is funded through Arts Council England.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, cabinet member for leisure, said: "These activities will be great fun, so make sure you and your children don't miss out."

Ormskirk's Chapel gallery.

Let It Be returns

LET It Be: A Celebration Of The Music Of The Beatles returns to the UK for a national tour starting in Summer 2018, playing the Liverpool Empire from September 3 to 8.

The show coincides with the 48th anniversary of Let It Be the album, which was released on May 8 1970.

Let It Be is the 12th and final studio album released by The Beatles – almost a month after the band split and went their separate ways.

And now, Let It Be: A Celebration Of The Music Of The Beatles returns to the UK with a new second half of the popular show.

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BBQ Two burner on wheels £10 ono 01704 575441

HOBBIES

AIR RIFLE Webley & Scott, collectors item, service air rifle, interchangeable barrels 1.77 .22 calibre £200 no offers 01704 876855

DRAPER Wood turning lathe, own stand or can be table mounted up to 4ft. Bed c/w set of 8 chisels £100ono 01704 566358

ELECTRIC GUITAR Giant with tremolo arm amp equaliser all cords plectrums & book with DVD to teach yourself. Brand new £70 07784 063827

HOBBIES

FISHING GEAR Course fishing rods, reels, seat box, 11 metre pole, nets, suit boots plus beach caster boat and pier rod £100ono 07963 782923

FISHING ROD for sea/beach fishing 2-piece glass fibre with cork grip, Daiwa heavy duty reel and spare line included £20 01695 578177

CAMPING EQUIPMENT Various camping equipment. 6 man tent. 5 camping chairs, camping stove with gas. Poles and pegs. Airbed. £70.00 ono 07511872745

TROMBONE Trombone wanted. Tenor trombone in excellent or very good condition. 07910667346

GOLF CLUBS Ping G5 Driver new grip reg flex 10.5 £25. Galloway Diablo Driver Tour 10.5, new grip £40 01704 572037

HALFORDS Two man tent complete with double lil bed & two sleeping bags used once £50 01704 513275

LARGE AQUARIUM and lower cupboard, cost £300, sell for £100, can deliver local 01704 884564

TV/DVD Akura 16" mains and 12 volt £30. Quotes 4 rings 2 pins £30. Ladies bike 22" wheels £30 01704 808614

GROLSCH CRATES Original grolsch crates with 16 grolsch bottles in. Great for home brewing. £10.00 01695 424360

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32" TV Samsung 32" TV smart television 1080p full HD, 4 years old, MINT condition, excellent. Skelmersdale £120 07419 330044

BLU-RAY DVD The Darkest Hour blu-ray + 3D + DVD + Digital brand new boxed and sealed £7 01704220356

TV STAND Black 3 shelf TV stand 4ft long with built in speakers £75 cost £325 Bargain 0151 5263893

LETTER BOX gold excerlent condition will fit uvpc door would be good to change or re-vamp a old door £10.00 01695 322096

AIWA MRM150 CD tape radio with remote small silver blue speakers 15watts per channel £20 07784 063827

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TV Phillips 43" black flatscreen TV. Very good condition £190 ono 0151 4767966

SONY HIFI Sony midi hi fi system vgc £25 01704 891371

LG TELEVISION LG TV 37 £90.00 07881610858

HOUSE AND HOME

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HOUSE AND HOME

OVAL PINE TABLE will seat 4-8 and 6 pine and painted shabby chic chairs £95 ono.
COOPERS HAND HELD VACUUM CLEANER still in box with accessories, £10 Tel:07887 379523 or 0151 932 9730 buyer collects

BOILER REMOTE CONTROL Siemans Cost £70.Bargain £35. only 3 months use due to getting New boiler fitted with its own control.Crossens area 07591482956

CEILING LIGHT Linear light Gold coloured frame 3 glass lamp shades suit narrow hall or over oblong table.W37in drop min/max19/25in matching walllight £45 01695 576078

MODERN DESIGN Solid Mahogany Matching TV Unit, Coffee Table & Sideboard, High Polish Finish, Originally Paid £1500 will accept £400 Buyer to Collect 07305 839665

POOL HEATER/FILTERPUMP Electric pool heater/filter pump by Intex with 8' solar cover. Chemicals and testing strips. RRP£150. Bargain £75 01704573196

TILED FIREPLACE Looks great would be ideal for renovation works .Traditional centre piece. Pictures supplied.Complete with surround and fire. £85 07767790187

CONSERVATORY SUITE Two high back chairs and two seater settee. Excellent condition brightly coloured cushions. Can be dismantled. Buyer collects. £50ono 01704572803

CHINESE PRINT Excellent print, blue background, picture of two cranes (birds). David Shepard trains collectible prints, excellent condition. Can deliver local. Offers. 01704 884564

LARGE WARDROBE Solid wood, piano hinges on doors, with shelves and lower hanging space. Made by Lebus. Absolute bargain. Only £39.00 07387439004

PINE STAND Waxed pine unit with shelves and door. Height 94cm, depth 21.5cm, width 29.5cm. Good for corner of room. Excellent condition. 07858046342

VITA-MIX S30 Blender. s/steel model. 5 mths old. 7 year guarantee, as new. £140. 07378 168 736

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WALL LIGHTS 4 double wall lights and fittings silver modern but ornate (difficult to describe) excellent condition £40 01704220356

HARVEY'S SOFAS 2 identical sofas. Dark brown suede and leather. All seats fully recline. Good condition. £200 07792692786

IKEA CABINATE Teak,31" long. Mirror backed. One shelf 6"deep. Sliding vertical mirror21"high. New with all fittings £10 pickup Crossens area 07591482956

HOUSE AND HOME

DUVET COVER Set, kingsize, in gold satin fabric with gold embroidery, with 4 pillow cases, brand new in pack. £ 18. 01704 530137

KENWOOD CHEF Food mixer, as new condition, model KM 300 in white, with beater, whisk and dough hook, hardly used. £75. 01704 530137

FIRE SURROUND :Maple coloured wooden surround Plain modern design W54inxH47in.Inset to fit back panel & fire W32inxH34in £45 01695 576078

HOUSE AND HOME

SATIN CURTAINS Pale copper coloured to fit pole 87in drop 84in. Fully lined pinch pleat heading matching cushions also for sale £75 01695 576078

SIDEBOARD Sideboard, dark oak colour, with matching corner display unit and cupboard. Very good condition. £75 for both or £50 each 07935205672

8DRAW CHEST from Ikea size L 160cm D 50cm H 80cm.Opaque front to draws as new. Comes with 2 bedside cabinets.£120 07876701547

HOUSE AND HOME

ZANNUSI COOKER Model ZKC6040X Ceramic Hob,grill and oven with racks Smoked Glass frontage,very clean and fully working.£200ono 07876701547

WATER FOUNTAIN Capodimonte made in Italy indoor ceramic 3ft swan water fountain on ceramic pedestal, £100 cost £300 Bargain 0151 5263893

KITCHEN CHAIRS Four John Lewis kitchen chairs with stainless steel legs. Excellent condition. New kitchen forces sale. £50. 07966764826

HALL TABLES 2 No Matching Semi Circular Hall Tables with Detailed Glass Inset Tops, Light Oak Finish, Any Reasonable Offer Accepted 07305 839665

EXTERNAL DOORHANDLES gold colour will fit uvpc door could be used to re-vamp/change the look of a old door £10.00 01695 322096

CAKE STANDS 4 new glass cake stands one tier great for afternoon tea nice shapes £4 each no text or withheld number 07504685036

CONSERVATORY FURNITURE One 2 seater settee and one chair in dark brown rattan with cream cushions. Excellent condition. £250 ono. 07875947438

DINING TABLE Elegant glass top table with four chairs, antique bronze wrought iron legs, neutral covered seats plus matching nest tables, £500 07752 886940

DINING TABLE Victorian round mahogany pop up £100. Victorian spoon back chair, deep pink £50. Golf trolley with seat £100 075961666390

FOUR SEATER corner unit beautiful condition, silver grey fabric, hardly used. Cost £900 for quick sale £250. Buyer collects 0151 2989593 or 07932 747271

FRIDGE FREEZER Good clean condition, drinks dispenser, buyer collects £70ono or exchange for under counter fridge 07845 179075

GLITTER BALL mirrored, rotating table lamp, never used, still in box, reflects light onto walls & ceilings 12 volt mains adapter £15 07765 202879

KIRBY VACUUM & tools choice of 2 £40 & £50. Both perfect strong pick up motor driven easy to use, leaves carpets like new 07784 063827

NEXT SIDEBOARD dark wood, 2 door, H 76cm W 96cm D 45cm, matching 2 cube nest of tables, excellent condition £200 07756 967713

HOUSE AND HOME

PICTURES Two large gold framed 30" x 24" Limited edition prints matching numbers by Alan Fernley. Harvest in the cotswolds£50 01704 506539

TRAVEL KETTLE 4/5 months old as new, used once, soup bowls & large hot pot bowl, selling due to space £15 the lot 01704 570374

TV STAND Black glass, fits upto 40" TV, good condition £12. 2 brass double light wall lights and matching floor lamp £32 07762 998292

FREE BLOCKS Approximately 60 slate blocks, mixture of large and small. Ideal for water feature or grate. Free to collect, remove asap. 07387439004

LARGE MIRROR Bevelled edged mirror in nice frame, approximately 48" wide and 36"tall. Cost new £190. Bargain at only £35.00 07387439004

MIRROR CABINET Hudson Reed 600mm wide 715mm high Grey avola Wood grain effect bathroom cabinet New. £50 01704 560627

HOUSE AND HOME

TV CABINET In light wood with drawer and two cupboards. Width 84cm, depth 42cm, height 84cm. Excellent condition. Only £40. 07858046342

COFFEE TABLES excellent condition mahogany with glass top inlay.Set of 3.Largest 39"x 20" two smaller 21"x17" £20 buyer collects 07896815816

HALOGEN OVEN excellent condition,never been used.full operating instructions but no box. Buyer collects,Southport £10 07896815816

BROWN CORNER Unit with Cupboard - two shelves (one glass) plus built in light. 17x39x70 VGC - £30.00 (Crosby area) If interested, please call 07989677525

BROWN EDGED Mirror with fine Gold Inner Trimmings 34x24 Excellent Condition (Crosby Area) £20.00. If interested please call 07989677525

FARQUESON WINTER Themed Picture with Pale Gold Frame w37.5 x H27.5 - £25.00 Excellent Condition. if interested please call Gill 07989677525

HALL TABLE Glass top antique gold coloured metal framework H30in W35in £30 01695 576078

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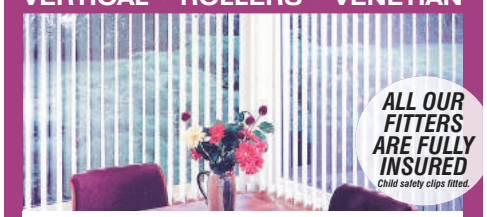

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HOUSE AND HOME

LAMP TABLE Glass top wooden & chrome base modern design H21in Top 26x22in £40 01695 576078

TABLE LAMP 3 globed glass stand with John Lewis neutral silk pleated effect shade H20in £20 01695 576078

WALL MIRROR Modern silver framed mirror good quality W50in H26in £20 01695 576078

MINI OVEN/GRILL Table top mini oven and grill, good condition, works perfectly. £15 07935205672

ADJUSTAMATIC BED Electric , single with mattress , very good condition cost £1400 sell for £500 ono 07944170185

CABIN BED Full size, sturdy and excellently condition . Four drawers. Solid base.£15 07823779449

BAR STOOLS 4 yellow height adjustable seats, chrome base, Excellent condition, cost £160 bargain £80 0151 5263893

SWIVEL CHAIR Blue multi coloured computer/desk chair. Ideal for student. £15 01695 423252

DYSON DC07 bagless upright vacuum cleaner, excellent suction, can deliver £45 Southport 214498

DECORATIVE TABLE With six chairs highly polished would make great centre piece.Pictures supplied £165 07767790187

COFFEE TABLE M&S light oak, glass topped with shelf, 34" square, 16" high, excellent condition £40 0151 5265398

DINING ROOM chairs, high back red leatherette, dark legs, x 6, £10 each. 01695 228002 or 07500 005776

DINING TABLE Extendible oak oval 4 chairs & 2 carvers. Excellent condition. Quick sale £150 Buyer to collect 01704 211892

FLAVEL ULTRA FLAME slot in elec fire, stainless steel, loose coal, flame effect with remote £50 01695 722386

G-PLAN oval dining table, 64" ext 82" x 42" plus 4 chairs, dark mahogany, good condition £100 01695 570140

INTERNAL DOORS 1 72" x 30", 2 72" x 24", part glazed, FREE of charge, to be collected 0151 9281502

KITCHEN TABLE Solid wood with tiled top & 4 solid wood chairs must be seen £100 0151 5263762

PRINTER HP Deskjet 3630 all in one £10. DVD player, new, still in box £10. Arrow Y50 H.Duty stapler £10. 01704 630894

READER DIGEST 12 recipe books. Eat Well, Live Well. Hard cover. Brand new £20 01704 461083

SINGLE BED Jay be put you up, brand new, unused new price £80+ sell for £29.99 0151 9240601

HOUSE AND HOME

WOODEN BLINDS Five wooden blinds, 2 to fit bay window with cream tape down side £65 07786 298207

WALL MIRROR With gold surround size 42 inches by 30 inches may deliver £20 ono 01515263851

DINING CHAIRS Brand new dining chairs with cream fabric seats, still in packaging £12.00 each Ono 07881610858

LEATHER SETTEES excellent condition quality settees one 3 seater and one two seater.Buyer to collect £200 07896815816

TROUSER PRESS excellent condition Corby trouser press little used.Buyer collects. Southport.£20 07896815816

GOLD AND Black Trim Mirror excellent Conditon 28 x 40 (cross by area). £40.00. If interested, please call 07989677525

JACK VETTRIANO Lady at Window print black frame W34inx H26in £30 01695 576078

QUARRY TILES 130 unused red 15 cm quarrry tiles. £25 07823779449

WIFI BOX berkit wifi box with cd instruction disc also conection cables. £10..00 01695 322096

HALL STAND Edwardian with storage seat & mirror £200 01704 228008

MATTRESS Single size memory foam, as new £50 01704 630894

PEDESTAL FAN excellent condition £25. Desk top fan £15 as new 01704 570374

RECLINER 2 seater brown fabric, excellent new condition £200 ono 01704 227503

STOKERS SOFA 2 seater, beige, excellent condition, £100 ono 01704 807655

VACUUM CLEANER Upright Dyson DC07. Very good condition will deliver £45 07845 529249

ZANUSSI DOUBLE OVEN built in, silver, bargain £20 0151 5271013

DINING TABLE Circular in light oak wood £15 ono 01515263851

TV STAND In dark glass with chrome legs may deliver £20 ono 01515263851

ERCOL SHELF Ercol plate shelf teak colour good condition.37" x 17"wide.£25 01704 891371

MIRROR Wooden framed approx 28x18" £15 570374

SOLID PINE Wood display unit £40 ono 01515263851

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DARTBOARD NEW good quality one comes in wooden winmau cabinet some marks on front but inside immaculate £20 01515319425/07773242918

SECURITY MIRROR Large bevelled security mirror. 24 inches diameter. Strong attached wall bracket. Suit business premises. £60.00 01695 424360

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DARTBOARD AND Cabinet unicorn excellent bargain £20 01515319425/07773242918

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GARDEN PARASOL Wooden, green fabric, as new £15 0704 876855

CIGARETTE CARDS ships, mounted under glass £70ono 07751020384

BOXES OF Household items also books and toys ideal for car boot sale £40 ono 01515263851

GEORGE FOREMAN Grill, new used once, unwanted gift. Colour red, boxed. £15. 07969984162

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TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR very comfortable, solid tyres, easily folds for transport, can deliver £55 Southport 214498

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Please submit your c.v for the attention of Sue McDermott to **info@jcasolicitors.co.uk**
If you do not hear from us within 10 days, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

Billing Clerk - Credit Control Department

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No previous experience is necessary as full training and support will be given, however a degree would be beneficial but not essential.
You will be trained to prepare Bills of Costs for legal services.
The role will also involve assisting the credit control team with administrative duties which will include contact with clients.

Please submit your c.v for the attention of Sue McDermott to **info@jcasolicitors.co.uk**
If you do not hear from us within 10 days, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

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Announcements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MOATE EILEEN PATRICIA (PAT)

Aged 95 years

Passed away peacefully at home in Aughton, surrounded by her loving family on 11th May 2018. Having recently celebrated her 95th birthday. Special mention to the ladies of Mossock Hall Golf Club whose fun and friendship she enjoyed. The family would like to express their sincere thanks for all the support shown to them at this difficult time.

LEA RUTH

The family would like to thank relatives and friends for the many messages of condolence and sympathy cards received during their recent sad loss. Special thanks to staff at Arranmore Park Care Home, and to all at Pardoe Court for all their kindness and care, and to Sally Hunter & Team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their wonderful care and Funeral arrangements.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MORGAN GERALD (GERRY)

Betty and the girls would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their kindness, cards and £355.00 raised in donations for Mesothelioma UK, following the sad loss of their Husband/Dad and to thank all who attended the funeral service. Finally thank you to the Co-op Funeral Directors for all their professional care, kindness and support.

There's even more online! www.champnews.com

WILKIE ALMA

Bob and family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind messages of sympathy, sympathy cards and floral tributes received during the recent sad loss of Alma, special thanks to Eleanor West of St Paul's Church for her kind ministrations and to Margaret and Linda of Skelmersdale Funeral Service for their dignified Funeral arrangements

To place a family **announcement** please call 01704 392392 or visit champnews.com

May Bank Holiday DEADLINES

The deadline for Private Advertisers for publication on **Wednesday 30th May** is as follows:
Telephone Bookings 4pm - Friday 25th May
Internet Bookings Midnight - Monday 28th May
Visit **www.champnews.com** for further details

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01695 581769

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01704 892191

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PRAYERS

Novena

To be said every hour for nine consecutive hours and promise publication.

O God who has said, "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you", I know, I seek, I ask that my prayers be answered (Request).

O God who has said, "All that you ask of the Father in My name will be granted" - I humbly and urgently request the Father in Thy name that my request be granted (Request).

O God who has said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away but my word shall not". Through the intercession of Mary Thy Most Holy Mother, I feel confident that my prayers will be answered (Request).

A.F.

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BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

MATTHEWS THOMAS

22nd May

Another birthday
without you here.
We miss you always,
Sheila and all the
family
xx

DEATHS

CAMPBELL VAL

11th May 2018
Peacefully in hospital
aged 84 years
of Ormskirk,
formerly of Upholland

The dearly loved Wife
of the late Philip,
loving Mum of Phyll,
Paul, Cathy and Tony
and devoted Nana
to all her Grand and
Great Grandchildren.
Memorial service at
Chapel Court, Chapel
Mews Ormskirk on
Friday 25th May 2018
at 10:30am.
No flowers by request,
donation if desired for
Galloway Society for
the Blind.
All enquiries to
Melanie Hardman at
H Hardman & Co.,
Independent Family
Funeral Directors
of Skelmersdale,
Ormskirk &
Scarisbrick.
Tel: 01695
722122/720012

ORCHARD ROBIN

13th May 2018
aged 66 years
Passed away peacefully

Will be sadly missed
by all his family
and friends. Funeral
service to celebrate
his life will take place
at West Lancashire
Crematorium on
Friday 25th May 2018
at 9.30am. Family
request that bright
colours to be worn.
Family flowers only.
Donations if desired
for Woodlands Animal
Sanctuary.
All enquiries to
Hunters of Ormskirk,
128b Burscough St
Ormskirk L39 2EY
Tel: 01695 572997

DEATHS

NAUGHTON KEVIN

After a short illness peacefully in hospital on 10th May 2018, aged 84 years.

Dearly beloved
Husband of June.
A much loved Dad of
Susan and Karen.
A loving Grandad of
Caroline and Joanne
and Great Grandad of
Marlowe.
Kevin will be sadly
missed by all his
family, friends and all
who knew him.
Requiem Mass will
take place at St
John the Evangelist
Church, Burscough
on Friday 1st June
2018 at 10am,
followed by Committal
at West Lancashire
Crematorium.
Traditional dress not
required.
Family flowers only by
request please but the
family are gratefully
receiving donations
for the Intensive Care
Unit at Southport
District General
Hospital.
Further enquiries
please to Cookson
Tyrer Funeral
Directors, 2 Smithy
Walk, Burscough,
Lancashire L40 5UU
Tel 01704 897770.

KEHOE WINIFRED (WIN)

Passed away peacefully on 18th May 2018
aged 91 years
of Ormskirk,
Formerly of Liverpool

Dearly loved Wife of
the late Frank. Much
loved Mum of Anne,
Michael, Gerard, Clare
& Stephen. Loved
and missed by all her
family and friends.
Funeral Mass at
St. Annes R.C Church,
Ormskirk on Monday
4th June 2018 at
12 noon, followed by
committal at West
Lancs Crematorium.
Family flowers only
please by request,
but donations are
being gratefully
received for Dementia
UK. Donations and
further enquires
please to Lisa Hunter
MLS Independent
Funeral Directors,
20, Moss Delph Lane,
Aughton
Tel: 01695 424888.

DEATHS

SUMNER WILLIAM JOHN (BILL)

Passed away peacefully on 20th May 2018
aged 84 years
of Aughton.

Much Loved
Husband of Eileen,
Dearly Loved Dad of
Mark & Keith,
Dear Father in law
of John, Paulette &
Colin, Loving Grandad
of Tristan Jon Paul,
Klaire & Sarah,
Great Grandad of
Lydia & Samuel.
Loved and missed
by All his family and
friends. Funeral Mass
at St. Mary R.C.
Church, Aughton on
Wednesday 30th May
2018 at 2.30 pm,
followed by committal
at West Lancs
Crematorium. Family
flowers only please
but donations
if so desired for
Columban Fathers
or Missionaries of
Charity. Donations
and further enquires
please to Lisa Hunter
MLS Independent
Funeral Directors,
20, Moss Delph Lane,
Aughton.
Tel: 01695 424888

KELLY LESLIE

9th April 2018

Passed away peacefully at Asmall Hall Care Home after a long illness

Beloved Husband
of the late Patricia,
much loved Father of
Phil, Father-In-Law
of Chris, Grandad
of Lisa, Paul, Lesley
and Jim and Great
Grandad of Evie,
Connie and Gracie.
Our heartfelt thanks
to all the staff at Good
Companions and
Asmall Hall for their
excellent care.
The funeral service
will take place
at Southport
Crematorium on
Thursday 24th May
at 10am. Family
flowers only but
donations if desired
to Imperial Cancer
Research Fund.
Further enquiries to
H.Johnson & Sons,
Funeral Directors,
147, Roe Lane,
Southport PR9 7PW.
Tel 01704 227067

DEATHS

PENNINGTON CATHERINE

10th May 2018
aged 76 years

Beloved
Wife of James.
Dearly loved Mum
of Lisa and Andrea,
A dear Mum-in-law,
and much loved
Grandma of Michael.
Funeral at St Anne's
Church Ormskirk on
Thursday 24th May
at 1.30pm followed
by interment at West
Lancashire Cemetery,
Pippin Street,
Burscough. Family
flowers only but if
desired, donations in
Catherine's memory
to Queenscourt
Hospice would be
appreciated.
All enquiries to
Hunters Funeral
Directors,
128b Burscough St,
Ormskirk L39 2EY
Tel:01695 572997

NEED TO PLACE
A FAMILY
ANNOUNCEMENT?
Call the sales team now on 01704 392392

McCUSKER GEORGE

12th May 2018
aged 87 years
of Ormskirk,
formerly of Halsall

Beloved
Husband of Linda.
'Many happy
memories are mine to
treasure until
we meet again'
Rest in Peace.

Funeral service
at West Lancs
Crematorium on
Thursday 24th May
2018 at 1.00pm.
Family flowers only
please but donations
if so desired for
North West Cancer
Research.

Donations and
further enquiries
please to Sally Hunter
MLS Independent
Funeral Directors,
20 Moss Delph Lane,
Aughton
Tel: 01695 424888

DEATHS

RACKHAM SHEILA (NEE BAGSHAW)

Peacefully at Southport Hospital on 11th May 2018
Aged 72

Dearly beloved Wife of Ray for
51 happy years. Mum to Adele
& Grandy to Cara. She will be
greatly missed by her many
friends, neighbours & all who
knew her. Service at Southport
Crematorium on Wednesday 30th
May at 10.40am. Family flowers
only please but donations gratefully
received for Queenscourt Hospice
and Diabetes UK. Thanks go to the
wonderful staff of the Ambulance
Service, A&E, Ward 11b and the
Critical Care Unit at Southport
Hospital for their loving care and
attention over 17 days & nights.
All enquiries to H.Johnson & Sons,
Funeral Directors, 1a Ralph's Wife's
Lane, Banks, Southport PR9 8ER.
Tel; 01704 505252

SCHOFIELD JOAN CYNTHIA

17th May 2018
Aged 85 years

Joan will be greatly
missed by all her family
and friends.
Service at Southport
Crematorium on
Tuesday 29th May
at 10:40am. Family
flowers only please,
but if desired donations
are being gratefully
received for R.S.P. C.A.
Donations and enquiries
to Howard's Funeral
Directors,
1-5 Roe Lane,
Southport, PR9 9DR.
Telephone:
01704 500086.

SHAW KATH

14th May 2018
Aged 84 years

Died peacefully at home
surrounded by her
family. Beloved wife of
the late Brian, much
loved Mum of Mike and
Angela. Loving Nana
of Paul, Stephanie and
Jennifer. Kath will be
greatly missed by all
her family and friends.
Family flowers only
please, but if desired
donations are being
gratefully received for
British Heart Foundation.
Donations and enquiries
to Howard's Funeral
Directors,
1-5 Roe Lane,
Southport, PR9 9DR.
Telephone:
01704 500086.

DEATHS

(TONY) FLANAGAN ANTHONY JAMES

12th May 2018
Suddenly at home
aged 80 years

Beloved Husband of Margaret.
Much loved Brother of Maureen
and George. Loving Brother in law
to Mary and Tony. Devoted Uncle
to all his Nephews and Nieces.
Loyal friend to all.
No farewells were spoken,
No time to say goodbye,
You were gone before we knew,
And only God knows why.
Funeral mass to be held at
St Benets Church, Netherton on
Friday 25th May 2018 at 12:00
with burial to follow at Bootle
Cemetery. Family flowers only
please. Donations if desired for
British Heart Foundation
c/o McCallum and Tritton and
Sons, 46 Mersey View, Brighton-
Le-Sands 0151 931 2002.

CROPPER ALAN (Ces)

On 14th May 2018
Suddenly but peacefully in Hospital,
with his family by his side
Aged 80 years

Beloved Husband of Alison,
and devoted Father of
Martyn and Lydia.
Funeral service will take place
at Liverpool Road Methodist
Church on Tuesday 29th
May at 11:00am, followed by
the committal at Southport
Crematorium. Family flowers
only by request, donations if
so desired for Queenscourt
Hospice. Donations and
further enquiries please to
M. Rushton Funeral Directors,
100 Marshside Road,
Southport, PR9 9TG.
Tel: 01704 214118.

FRAMPTON CAROLE (NEE BIRCHALL)

On 16th May 2018
Peacefully in Hospital
aged 71 years

Loving Wife of Brian,
devoted Mum of Steven,
dear Mother-In-Law of
Jane, cherished Nan of
Jake, Calley and Isla,
caring Sister of Ena and
Raymond and a dear
Aunty of Linda, will be
sadly missed by all her
family and friends.
Funeral service and
interment will take place at
St Paul's Church on Friday
25th May at 2:30pm.
All enquiries Margaret
Whitelam, Skelmersdale
Funeral Service
29/31 Sandy Lane
Tel: 01695 559868

DEATHS

BOLTON MICHAEL

13th May 2018
Peacefully in hospital
aged 82 years
of Ormskirk

The dearly loved
Husband of the late
Margaret, loving
Dad of John and
Catherine and devoted
Grandad of Oliver,
Robin and Nathan.
Funeral service at
West Lancashire
Crematorium,
Burscough on
Thursday 7th June
2018 at 2:30pm.
Family flowers only
please, donations
if desired for The
Alzheimers Society.
All enquiries to
Melanie Hardman at
H Hardman & Co.,
Independent Family
Funeral Directors
of Skelmersdale,
Ormskirk &
Scarisbrick.
Tel: 01695
722122/720012

BOYD JOHN

16th May 2018
Peacefully in hospital
aged 67 years

Dearly loved Dad
of Jade and Adele.
Devoted Grandad of
Ava, Jake and Ella.
Service and
cremation at Thornton
Crematorium on
Tuesday May 29th at
12.40pm.
Family flowers only
please but donations
if desired for MND.
C/O David Clegg
Independent
Funeral Service,
77-79 Bridge Road,
Litherland,
L21 2PA.
Tel 0151 9286665

DEATHS

JACK ADELE

Passed away peacefully on 16th May 2018
aged 72 years,
of Aughton.

Dearly Loved Wife of
the Late Ian
Much Loved Mother
of Simon, Graham,
Peter and Alistair,
Beloved Sister of
Carol and Andrew.
Loved and missed
by all her family and
friends.
Funeral Service
at Christ Church,
Aughton on Friday
25th May 2018 at
10.00am. followed by
committal at
West Lancs
Crematorium. Family
flowers only please
by request, but
donations are being
gratefully received
for the N.S.P.C.C.
Donations and further
enquires please
to Lisa Hunter
MLS Independent
Funeral Directors,
20,Moss Delph Lane,
Aughton.
Tele. 01695 424888.

CARTER HAROLD DESMOND (DES)

May 18th 2018
Aged 87 years.

Dearly loved Husband of Lillian.
Loving Dad of Keith and Carole.
Dear Grandad of David, Katie,
Christopher and Kay and Great
Pa of Ellie. Sadly missed by all
his family. Funeral service at
St Andrew's Church, Maghull
on Wednesday May 30th 2018
at 2:30pm followed by
committal at West Lancashire
Crematorium, Pippin Street,
Burscough. Family flowers only
please but donations, if desired,
for Macmillan Cancer
Support c/o Graham J Clegg
Independent Funeral Service,
7 Dover Road, Maghull,
Merseyside L31 5JB
Tel:0151 520 3330 or at
www.cleggfunerals.co.uk

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- Delph Lane, Greenwood Close, Haven Brow, Moss Delph Lane, Quarry Drive, Westhaven Crescent

BURSCOUGH
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PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2018/0335/FUL Existing car port to be converted to a garage with associated landscape works at 46 Granville Park West, Aughton.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2018/0399/FUL Change of use on the first floor from residential use to A2 offices with changes to the front elevation including provision of terraced area at first floor at 9 Moorgate, Ormskirk.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2018/0481/FUL Ground floor extension and basement at Needless Inn Farm, Lady Alices Drive, Lathom.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0482/LBC Listed Building Consent - Ground floor extension and basement at Needless Inn Farm, Lady Alices Drive, Lathom.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0511/FUL Retrospective application for the replacement of 4 no. chimney pots with new 0.9m high chimney pots to achieve a minimum height above the thatched roof of 1.8m at Stock Cottage, 52 School Lane, Downholland.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0512/LBC Listed Building Consent - Retrospective application for the replacement of 4 no. chimney pots with new 0.9m high chimney pots to achieve a minimum height above the thatched roof of 1.8m at Stock Cottage, 52 School Lane, Downholland.
The application affects a Listed Building.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Dated:23rd May 2018
Director of Development and Regeneration PDNOT997

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PORSCHE is, I've long reckoned, is the only supercar maker that just about everyone can afford to dabble in.

The days of 944s for under a grand and air-cooled 911s for Mondeo money might be long gone but you can easily pick up an early Boxster for less than the price of a secondhand Astra – try doing that with Ferrari or McLaren. I was at a huge Porsche event over in Llandudno and that's definitely the vibe I picked up from the people taking part.

Sure, there were managing directors flying the flag in brand new Caymans, but there were also plenty of petrolheads who just love their cars, even without the enormous budget, and were just as happy to be there.

Except for one chap, who I can only assume was a member of the public who'd got lost. "I dunno, I don't get what all the fuss is", he seethed to his other half as he glanced over 650 of Stuttgart's sports cars, proudly lined up along a North Wales promenade.

"They're just cars, aren't they? A means to an end. As long as it's got a tow bar for my trailer and starts up in the morning, I don't give a fig".

Only that last word was something else beginning with 'F', of course.

For a moment I thought I'd overhead someone who sees cars the way I see football – but then for all the moments I can feel my eyes glazing over every time I hear the transfer window being discussed loudly in a pub, I can at least look back at all the few times I've been to see Southport play and ended up cheering them on.

This bloke, on the other hand, had no time for cars whatsoever.

His loss, especially when you bear in mind that you don't have to have a Porsche and that motoring fun can be had in just about any form at every budget, taking virtually no effort to attain.

A secondhand Mondeo can be picked up for a few hundred quid and they can be very sprightly through the bends. Gently expand your used car budget and the Golf GTI is your oyster. A mate of mine bought a Renault Sport Megane not long ago – 225bhp and finely honed French suspension for just four grand.

Still not convinced? You could snap up a secondhand Land Rover Discovery and have all the space and countryside chic you could ever ask for, or match family practicality with a healthy dose of B-road prowesss with a 5-Series that's barely in.

Even the most sensible family car I can think of, the Skoda Octavia, can be had in smile-inducing vRS form from about £2000 upwards.

All of these cars, of course, can be fitted with a tow bar and will start up a treat first thing in the morning.

Not bad for a means to an end.

David Simister is the editor of Classic Car Weekly.

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61 MAZDA 2 1.3 TS2 3DR, met grey, PAS, E/W, remote locking, A/C, ABS, service history, 70,000 miles £3,695
60 PEUGEOT 207 S, met silver, PAS, E/W, remote locking, A/C, ABS, service history, 62,000 miles £2,995
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60 VAUXHALL VIVARO 1.9 TDI, PAS, c/l, CD, 80k, clean van £2,995
05 VAUXHALL CORSA SXI 3DR 1.3 DIESEL, blue, PAS, ABS £1,195
55 RENAULT CLIO 1.2 3DR, 5spd, E/W, C/L, alloys, A/C, ABS,CD £1,195
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47 Monthly Payments	£259.00
Optional Final Payment	£6,959.00
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Amount of Credit	£9,471.37
47 Monthly Payments	£159.00
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1.2 82PS SE

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Amount of Credit	£13,504.00
47 Monthly Payments	£196.46
Optional Final Payment	£6,175.00
Interest Charges	£1,904.62
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Cash Price	£18,498.59
Customer Deposit	£245.00
Deposit Allowance	£2,500.00
Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
Amount of Credit	£15,253.69
47 Monthly Payments	£245.00
Optional Final Payment	£6,246.00
Interest Charges	£2,507.31
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£21,006.00
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1.2T SE

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57 JAGUAR XJ 2.7 DIESEL SOVEREIGN , silver blue, cream leather, FSH, Full MoT **£6995**
58 AUDI A6 2.7 TD, grey, le mons, auto saloon, huge spec **£5250**
55 BMW X5 3.0 TD SPORT AUTO, silver, black leather, panoramic roof, FSH **£5250**
60 SEAT EXEO 2.0 TDI SALOON, silver, FSH **£4695**
11 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 SXI 5DR, silver, alloys **£4495**
10 FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDCI ZETEC S, electric blue metallic, superb car **£4250**
P/P MERCEDES S320 CDI AUTO, silver, leather, full spec **£3995**
07 JAGUAR 2.7 TWIN TURBO S TYPE, saloon, auto, silver, leather **£3395**
59 ALFA ROMEO MITO LUSSO 3-dr, black metallic, 61k **£3295**
11 HYUNDAI I30 1.4 5DR, in light blue, fsh **£3250**
07 HONDA CIVIC TYPE S GT 1.8 3DR, IN BLUE **£3250**
10 FORD MONDEO DIESEL ESTATE ZETEC, in black **£2995**
10 NISSAN MICRA 1.2 PURE DRIVE, black **£2995**

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54 VW POLO 1.4 AUTOMATIC, in silver, 69,000 miles **£2250**
07 PEUGEOT 207 AUTO, black, 60,00 miles **£2295**
05 RENAULT GRAND ESPACE 3.0 DIESEL AUTO, 7 seats, half leather, silver, sat nav **£2295**

04 KIA SORENTO 2.5 TD MANUAL, silver, leather, FSH **£2795**
58 FIAT BRAVO DIESEL, in gold, 5DR **£2595**
99 MERCEDES SLK 230 COMPRESSER COUPE AUTO, silver, leather seats **£2495**
04 TOYOTA RAV 4 XTS, blue, manual, alloys, sunroof **£2495**
59 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 3DR, in silver, 73000 miles **£2295**
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SXI 16V 3DR, silver, 42,000 miles **£2250**
57 MAZDA 5 2.0 DIESEL SALOON, in blue **£1995**
55 VOLVO V50 DIESEL ESTATE, grey metallic, full leather **£1995**
55 AUDI A4 AVANT ESTATE 2.0 TDCI SE, silver, 6 speed gearbox **£1995**
05 VW GOLF 2.0 GT TDI SPORT 6SPD 3DR, Silver **£1995**
53 NISSAN X TRAIL DIESEL 5DR, silver **£1795**
54 CITROEN BERLINGO DIESEL, 49,000 miles, red metallic **£1795**
55 VOLVO V50 T DIESEL ESTATE 2.0 in blue **£1695**
60 SEAT IBIZA 1.6 TDSR, in black, 5DR, FSH **£3495**
02 HONDA CIVIC , FSH, 5DR **£1595**
55 FORD FOCUS 1.6 DIESEL 5DR, manual, in light blue metallic **£1595**
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Danny Brady on the ball for Burscough. Picture by John Driscoll

Linnets can hold their heads high after cup final heartache

Burscough 1
Widnes 2

BURSCOUGH can hold their heads up proudly after their Macron Cup final loss against Widnes, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

Held at Fleetwood Town's Highbury Stadium last week, the record books will say that the Linnets lost 2-1 and the league tables will say that they went into the match as rank outsiders.

Widnes finished second in the North West Counties League Premier Division table and next season they will enter the Evo-Stik League, while Burscough finished 16 places and 46 points behind them in the table.

But Dave Sutton's young Linnets team shocked their opponents by taking the lead in the ninth minute and although Widnes levelled on 22 minutes, Burscough continued to match them through to half-time.

Widnes grabbed the lead with only 12 minutes to go and it looked all over, but Burscough responded with a series of attacking moves and were only denied by a miraculous performance by the Widnes goalkeeper with a string a top drawer saves thwarting the Linnets.

The Burscough goal had come from a corner when Jamie Clark swung the ball right under the Widnes crossbar and into the far corner of the net. It was no fluke though as Clark has scored before this season in similar fashion.

When Widnes levelled, it was with a rare attack. A corner was headed back across the box and former Skelmersdale striker Ben Hodkinson drove the ball home through a crowded goal-line.

It was close for the rest of the half and on 37 minutes Burscough went close via centre-forward Chad Whyte.

The striker, who has scored over 33 goals since joining the Linnets from Widnes in October, was thwarted by a full length save from Widnes goalkeeper Ritchie Mottram.

The game soon became stretched as both teams determinedly set about winning and it was quite a spectacle for the spectators.

What was to prove the Widnes winner came in the 78th minute.

Sam Sheen sent a cross into the Burscough goalmouth from the right and it was a poor one and no one connected with the ball at all, however it found its way into the far side of the goal and crept just inside the post.

Within two minutes Burscough were unlucky not to equalise, Josh Dunroe hit a shot from 20 yards that hit the foot of the post.

The rebound fell to Peter Henerty but this time Mottram made a brilliant point blank save to frustrate Burscough.

Burscough were desperately unlucky twice more before the end.

Just as five minutes added time was announced 19 year old Burscough captain Danny Brady went on a surging run, his shot on goal was going in until Mottram pulled off another diving save.

Then on 93 minutes Dunroe almost saved Burscough but again Mottram saved Widnes with a tremendous save.

After the match manager Dave Sutton said: "They are a good side and we almost did them.

"It would have been nice to have brought the trophy home to Burscough, but we proved we too are a top team.

"We were so unlucky with so many young players who stepped forward. It leaves us really looking forward to next season, we were as good as them and they are going up."

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Armstrong hits century before Hartley takes 6-14 to seal win for Ormskirk

ORMSKIRK sit in fourth place In the Liverpool & District Cricket Competition Premier Division after a 147 run win at New Brighton.

After electing to bat first Ormskirk piled up 248-5 declared thanks to a fine century from John Armstrong (114 inc 15x4 & 2x6), 61 from Josh Bohannon and 45 from Gary Knight.

In reply, 6-14 from Tom Hartley and 3-32 from Alex Mason helped dismiss the hosts for 101 and seal victory for the defending champions.

Table toppers Formby continued their fine start with a 153 run home win over Rainhill.

The hosts were asked to bat and responded by putting 238-5 dec up on the board, thanks in the main to a welcome return to form from Lancashire's Haseeb Hameed who caressed an unbeaten century (121 inc 16x4 & 1x6) and 57 from Australian Tim Smithies

In reply the visitors were dismissed for just 85, with Sabbir Patel spinning his way to a match clinching 6-18.

Second placed Northern sit just three points behind the leaders after a 55 run home win against Leigh.

The hosts chose to bat and declared their innings on 169-9, with Chris Laker 45 and Justin Snow 30 top scoring, with Toby Bulcock taking 7-48.

In reply, Tom Sephton spun his way to all but one of the wickets to fall with a superb 9-60 as the visitors were dismissed for 114, with Ben Smith unbeaten on 47*.

Bootle are just a further two points behind Northern after a 125 run home win against Wallasey, the hosts chose to bat and thanks to Michael Farrell 67 and 35 down the order from Scott Butterworth were able to declare on 165-9, with Matthew Wilcox taking 4-30.

In reply, Chris Liptrot then took the first nine wickets to fall before Bharat Tripathi spoiled a perfect ten by claiming the final wicket of Matthew Keogh as the visitors were blown over for just 40, with Liptrot returning incredible match winning figures of 15-9-18-9.

Skelmersdale pull out of league due to lack of players

SKELMERSDALE have pulled their first XI team out of the Liverpool Competition for this season due to a lack of players.

The team had been playing in the Second Division but have conceded their remaining games for the season.

The Champion reported earlier this year that officials at the club had launched a 'use us or lose us' appeal in a desperate bid to boost dwindling adult membership.

Skelmersdale Cricket Club has a proud history stretching back more than 125 years and moved to their current purpose built ground at Firswood Park in 2002.

The 2nd XI team will continue to play their fixtures.

The club run five junior teams from under 9s to under 18s who play in the Southport & District Junior Cricket League.

The club also take part in the All Stars Cricket initiative in co-operation with the ECB_which is aimed at providing children aged 5 to 8 with a great first experience in cricket.

A club spokesman said the decision to withdraw the first XI from the Liverpool Competition was a "very sad day for the club"

He added: "We have a great ground, great facilities, and all you could want as a player, but sadly no players."

But he said: "We'll come back stronger."

Skipper's score of 81 just not enough for Burscough

BURSCOUGH sit one place off the bottom of the First Division, after a 39 run home defeat by leaders Orrell Red Triangle.

The visitors chose to bat and thanks to useful runs from Richard Everett 91 and Sam Heeley 29 were able to declare on 186-5 with Daniel Unsworth claiming 3-32.

In reply, skipper Jon Stone top scored with 81 but only he and Trevor Webster 17* were able to reach double figures as the hosts were dismissed for 147, with Siddiq Patel claiming 4-20.

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ORMSKIRK & WEST LANCASHIRE Champion

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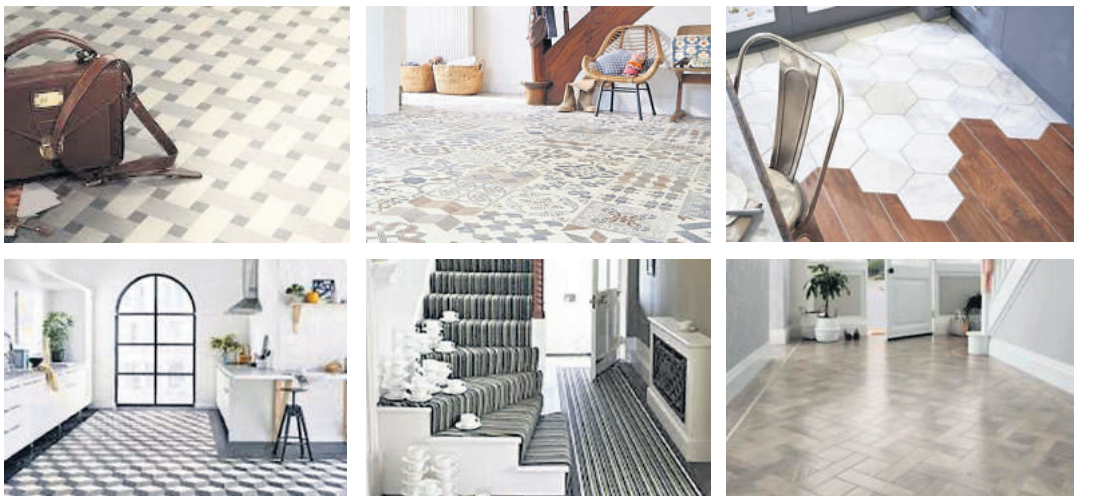

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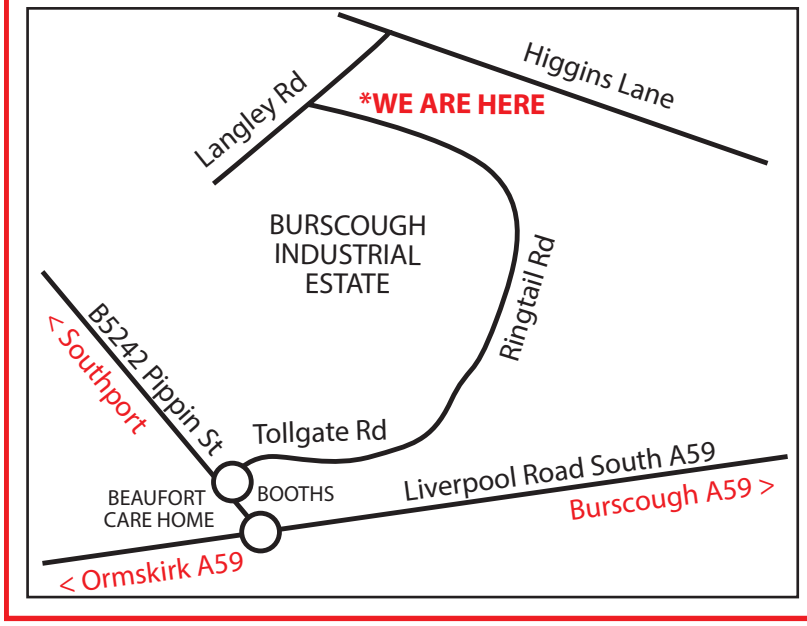

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